CIRCULATION
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TOLEDO WEEKLY BLADE

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Poetry.

YE WOMEN'S WAYS.

In ye ancient castle,
Where Her sires had slepte,
Dwelt a gentyle mayden,
Rosamond ycleped.

And she was betrothed
Toe a noble Knighte,
Who, toe prove himme worthie,
Sallied forth to fyghte.

"With ye bolde Crusaders
I wille cast my lotte;
For ye dogges of Paynims
We will make it hotte!

"Comynge home with honours
From far Palestine,
Att thy feete I'll kneel me,
Claymynge thee as myne."

Whenne He had beene absent
For three wearie Moons,
Rosamond, alle Heart-sicke,
Sighed, "Oh come eftsoons!

"Drearie is ye Waitynge,
And I moane amain,
Butte on thy true loving
Does my Truste remayne."

Came a wylie mayden
From ye Courte of France,
Thoughe her hearte was eville,
Merrie was her glance.

"Tu wille wedd Sir Richard,
Rosamond?" she laughed,
"Ah, about La Marquise
Il vas greatlie chaffed!

"How he followe of her,
Gaze upon her yeux!
Claymynge beaucoup Kisses
As ye lover's due!

"Ah, elle est most jolie!
Lyghtsome and petite!
Ah, ye Knyghts who journey!
Watching them in Meete!"

Rosamond didd gaylie
Force her Lippe to smyle,
"Nay," she saide, "Why grudge him
Aught whych wille Beguile

"Ye right wearie moments
Of ye Pilgrimage?
Manne was never worser
For ye badinage!

Yea, I bade himme doe it,
For ye Priggs I hate,
Good-night, gentyle cousin,
It is growing late."

From ye Halle right proudlie
Rosamond did sweepe,
Shut her in Her bower,
Cryd Herself toe Sleepe.

—Town Topics.

LAUS DEO! IT IS DONE.

It is done!
Clang of bell and roar of gun
Send the tidings up and down,
How the belfries rock and reel!
How the great guns, peal on peal,
Fling the joy from town to town!

Ring, O bells!
Every stroke exulting tells
Of the burial hour of crime.
Loud and long, that all may hear,
Ring for every listening ear
Of Eternity and Time!

Let us kneel;
God's own voice is in that peal,
And this spot is holy ground.
Lord, forgive us! What are we
That our ears have heard the sound?

For the Lord
On the whirlwind is abroad;
In the earthquake he has spoken;
He has smitten with His thunder
The iron walls asunder,
And the gates of brass are broken.

Did we dare,
In our agony of prayer,
Ask for more than He has done?
When was ever His right hand
Over any time or land
Stretched as now beneath the sun?

It is done!
In the circuit of the sun
Shall the sound thereof go forth.
It shall bid the sad rejoice,
It shall give the dumb a voice,
It shall bell with joy the earth!

Blotted out!
All within and all about
Shall a fresher life begin;
Freer breathe the universe,
As it rolls its heavy curse
On the dead and buried sin!

—John Greenleaf Whittier.

Miscellany.

GEORGIA ELECTION STORY.

The Parson Lost, but Got His Horse Back Again.

One election story is that an itinerant Georgia preacher, who had one horse and a large family, was so confident of Bryan's election that he said to one of the members of his congregation:

"I don't bet, an' I ain't a-goin' ter bet; but if anybody would jest make believe that they wagered a hoss ag'in that air creetur' o' mine that Bryan won't be elected, it would be all right with me, an' I'd jest consider—between me and him—that my hoss wuz stakes ag'in his."

"All right, brother," said the member, "we'll just look at it in that light, an' if McKinley is elected I'll have two hosses an' you none."

It was "a go" but the following Sunday the congregation was amazed to see the preacher tramping to town, where he arrived, way-worn and mud-bespattered, and, mounting the platform, straightway began preaching against the evils of betting.

"Yes," he cried, "there are men in this here congregation so lost ter right an' jestice that they would bet ag'in the one hoss of a poor man, take it from him, an' make him walk ter glory for the balance of his days. If such a man is in the hearin' o' my voice to-day, let him tremble. He can't take that election hoss ter heaven with him. If he could ride it plum into the pearly gates the Angel Gabriel would holler, 'Whoa,' and while the tremblin' wretch dismounted he would hear these words, like the knell o' doom: 'Whar did you get that hoss?'"

After the sermon and the benediction some one took the parson by the arm, and led him out into the grove and handed him a bridle (and there was a hoss connected with it) and said:

"Here's yer darned old hoss. Pray for me on yer way home."—Chicago Times-Herald.

LUCKY YOUNG MAN.

He Seized the Opportunity and Got Into the Swim.

A certain young man in Atchison stood on a corner last night wondering what he would do with himself to kill time, when he saw a crowd of thirty or more people approaching with baskets on their arms. It was a surprise party and when he fell in line and asked a pretty girl if he could carry her basket she consented, thinking he was a guest whom she had not yet met. Every one in the crowd seemed to think that some one else had invited him, and some one, finding out his name, introduced him to all the others. He had the best time in his life. He had a good supper, kissed seventeen girls, escorted the prettiest girl in the crowd home and was invited to two parties to be given next week. There is nothing like seizing an opportunity to be in the social swim.—Atchison Globe.

They Could Use Lamps.

"I'm all in the dark about how these bills are to be paid," said Mr. Hardup to his wife.

"Well, Henry," said she, as she pulled out a yellow one and laid it on top of the pile, "you will be if you don't pay that one, for that's the gas bill."—Washington Capital.

The Alternative.

The man who is a great stickler for etiquette never ought to board. He must either change his principles, or go hungry if he does.—Somerville Journal.

The Limit.

Temperance Advocate—"I am sorry to hear that you have been drinking of late. Remember that there is a limit to the pleasures of a public house."

Gardener—"Very well, sir; I'll go to a brewery."—The Sketch.

CRYSTAL GLOBES.

Held in Great Veneration by the Japanese.

Among the curiosities recently placed on view at the Art Museum are a number of rock crystal gems.

"In every house of the better sort in Japan," says Director Griffith, "there is a tokonomo or special place for keeping objects of art and beauty. Here, suspended on the walls as a background, you will find a kakemano or scroll banner, consisting of a painting, generally on silk. In front of this a bronze or porcelain vase holding flowers, a fan, and other work characteristic of native art.

"One of the objects most often seen here is a dais or raised stand, on top of which is a black or crimson silk cushion, or a simple silver claw, whereupon reposes a globe of rock-crystal. Pure, flawless, transparent; a perfect sphere, it seems like a bubble of spring water

hovering in the air. Often the stand is an elaborate piece of art work in metal, porcelain or lacquer, representing a beetling craig or lofty rock crested with the precious jewel. Around the base the sea waves curl and foam, while up the side moves a jealous dragon with eager, outstretched jaws, and claws ready to grasp and bear away the prize.

"This eager desire of the dragon for the crystal or sacred jewel is manifested in many forms of oriental art. These crystals are supposed to typify the forces which control the ebbing and the flowing tides, hence they are emblems of divine and imperial power.

"On the top of the tomb of a true believer is carved a representation of the flashing gem, typifying the soul and its aspirations. This same token is emblamatic of good government, peace, security, prosperity and national honor. It is engraved upon their paper money.

"Thus one can see why the ball is used so often by the Japanese artist and also in fiction. The word 'tama' means not only a ball or gem, but also the soul or spirit."

Any person having miniatures, daguerreotypes, ambrotypes or photographs of citizens of Detroit, or of buildings, street scenes in and about the city, taken prior to 1870, are earnestly requested to notify the Art Museum at once, stating what they have and giving their address. This is preparatory to an exhibition of pictures and material relating to the history of Detroit.

"Earth's hidden treasures" will be the subject of next Sunday's talk at the Art Museum. A fine collection of antique glassware and pottery recently taken from tombs in the far East will be used for illustration. These have been loaned for a short time to the Art Museum by a young Armenian refugee who is at present in this country.

POPULATION OF THE STARS.

Many Worlds, No Two of Which Exist Under the Same Conditions.

The discovery of the philosopher's stone, supposing that phrase to imply a working scheme for transmuting an inferior metal into gold, would probably produce nothing beyond a period of terrible economic confusion, or perhaps a vast and disastrous, because over-rapid, transfer of property; but the attainment of certainty that sentient beings with corporeal envelopments, acting by effort and not by pure volition, existed in any one other planet, would only enlarge the range of human thought and the force of the human imagination. Such a certainty would either increase to an extraordinary degree the reverence for the Creator—for we are all so limited that we reverence power which we see exerted more than powers which we know in theory must exist—or would compel materialists to revise and widen their whole theory of the relation of matter to mind, it being evident that sentience could exist under conditions hitherto deemed impossible.

There are certainly millions, and possibly billions, of worlds of which no two are the same, and if sentient beings were found past question in no other world than ours, the presumptions that they existed under a variety of conditions, and probably, therefore, in a variety of forms practically unlimited, would become so violent that to reject the theory would soon be regarded as an evidence of a foolish popular habit of disbelief in the unseen. Man has some internal dislike to believe that limited beings with sentience can exist under conditions other than his own, and habitually assumes that a world without air is a dead world, or at all events an empty world; yet there is no proof that the other, which we know to be everywhere, cannot support life, or that circumstances of which we know nothing may not modify either its intolerable cold or the effect of that cold.

In Mars itself there is some potency at work which, to the despair for the moment of terrestrial science, produces warmth where cold ought to reign permanently supreme. It is as certain as any deduction from analogy can be that air in Mars, though it exists, is as rarefied as it would be at the top of a mountain twice as high as Mount Everest, and that consequently the normal and permanent degree of cold ought to be terrible. "The thermal income of Mars is less than half that of the earth, and its theoretical mean temperature is consequently—taking into account its low 'albedo,' or reflective power per unit of area—thirty degrees Centrigrade below freezing." Yet the actual climate of Mars is mild. Snow certainly melts rapidly—that is patent to the telescope—vapor certainly rises—that is clear from the spectrum-analysis—water flows, and there are indications, if not proofs, that a sudden vegetation follows the sudden thawing of the snow. What warms the air is unknown, but it is warmed past all question of doubt, and all arguments, therefore, as to the inevitableness of cold in other worlds must be pronounced imperfect, as are also those which show the impossibility of sustaining corporeal life. All we can say with certainty is that if sentient beings with corporeal frames exist in Mars, the relation of the lungs to the body cannot be identical with their relation in man, which, as we are aware of fishes, is not an impossible exercise of the imagination.—London Spectator.

He Saved Her Life.

Benevolent-looking gentleman—Well, my little girl, what would you do if I should give you a $20 gold piece?

Street waif—Oh, sir! I fear I'd drop dead. He saved her life.—New York Evening Journal.

Inconsistent.

The young man who is anxious to lay the world at the feet of the girl he adores, three months after he marries her isn't willing even to lay the carpet.—Yonkers Statesman.

MRS. M'KINLEY'S CHARITIES,

MR. M'KINLEY'S BROTHER ABNER SAYS SHE IS AN EXTREMELY LIBERAL WOMAN.

Gives Flowers and Taks the Sick to Ride Behind Her Big Brown Horse—Fully Able to Be First Lady.

A reporter called upon Abner McKinley an evening or so ago to get from him a few accurate statements about the next lady of the White House, and particularly about that side of her life least written about—her charities.

In a President's wife the charity side is an immensely important one; and her charitable leanings and soft tendencies often balance the life of a nation. It is said that Liliuokalani owed Grover's championship to the intervention of Mrs. Cleveland in her behalf.

The reporter found Abner McKinley seated in the staircase hall of the beautiful hotel where, with his family, he lives when in New York, which is for most of the year.

It is a magnificent place, all palms and stained-glass windows, while easy chairs, soft carpets and great velvet couches suggest ease and luxury of the most aesthetic, aristocratic type. In the midst of it all, comfortably chatting with a party of gentlemen, sat Abner McKinley.

"I don't wish to be interviewed," said he, "about my brother's wife. She is well known and will be leter known in the next few years, but I do wish right here to correct the absurd rumors that she will not be able to preside as mistress of the White House. She is in better health now than she has been in years, and will fill her position ably. More than that I do not want to say."

"But," said the reporter, handing Mr. McKinley a manuscript with the Canton postmark, "you will at least look this over and say if it is correct. This was written by a friend of Mrs. McKinley in the city of Canton."

The brother of the President-elect glanced the written pages through.

"That, like most accounts of Mrs. McKinley," said he, "is nine-tenths false. Never was so much untrue matter written about a woman who wanted Kinley a 'new woman' in the sense of a woman who cycles, golfs and drives a four-in-hand?"

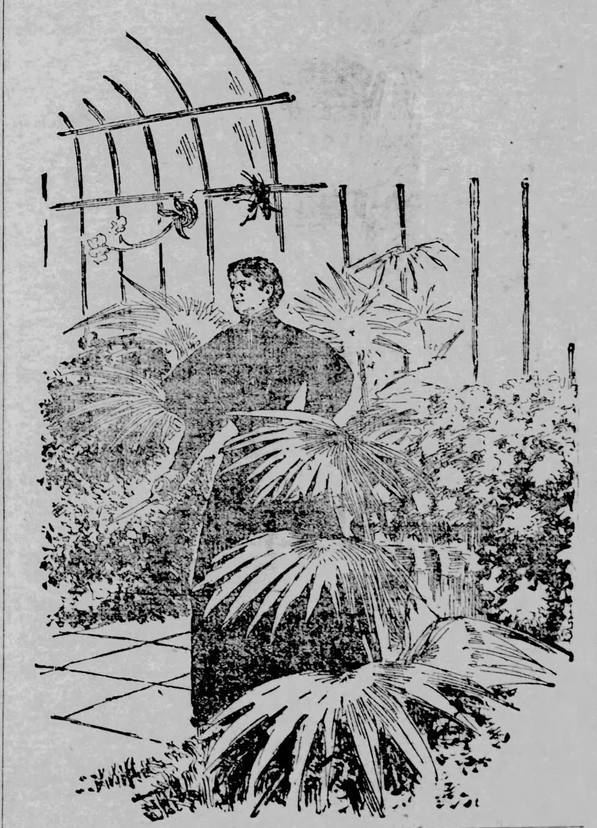
Abner McKinley smiled the soft McKinley smile that has won over many a McKinley opponent. "I can not say that I have ever known Mrs. Major to golf or cycle, though she may have gone into both of late. But if so, she has kept it very quiet. Niether do I know of her driving a four-in-hand.

"In Canton and in Washington, and in Columbus, the McKinley stable has been limited to one efficient horse. Is he a bay? No. He is a brown horse, trusty, and a good horse for Mrs. McKinley to drive. Does she take the sick to ride behind that horse, and the poor, and those who need a friend? Yes, she does. She is that kind of a character. She is good, good! She does not care for show, and that one horse has afforded her as much pleasure in the past as the White House stables will in the future."

"And what is the horse's name?" asked the reporter.

"I'll be d——d if I know," said Abner, drooping his head and rubbing his chin with a perplexed look. "But I know that Mrs. Major can drive him, and that she is a smart, active woman, ready to take up the work and the charities of the President's wife ably and well."

And with a Chesterfieldian bow the brother of the President-elect bade the reporter good-night.



LATEST FROM MARS.

Latest Conclusions Regarding Its People and Canals.

The French astronomer Flammarion, who has for years been making a special study of the planet Mars, has reached the definite conclusion that the planet is the seat of life and intellectual activity. He believes it possesses all the earth's conditions of habitability in modified form, hence the Martians may be supposed not to exactly resemble the inhabitants of earth in physical conformation. For instance, the attraction of gravitation is far less. M. Flammarion tells us that on Mars a kilogram weighs only 376 grams; and a human being weighing 150 pounds would, if transported to Mars, weigh only about 50 pounds.

The great astronomer thinks he has discovered that the temperature at the surface of Mars is not so low as would appear from its known distance from the sun and rarefaction of its atmosphere. This seems to be proven by the fact that its polar snows melt in summer, like those of our own planet, and even more, for scarcely any snow remains at the end of the summer.

Living creatures there may be larger, as they are certainly much lighter built for life, with possibly larger lung and greater brain capacity—hence the inhabitants of Mars may be better developed than we are physically, and incomparably above us in intellectual powers.

Some time ago M. Flammarion thought he had discovered that the Martians were signalling to the inhabitants of earth with a great fire on their planet. He applied himself to the task of mastering the meaning of the flaming signal, but finally gave it up as a hopeless undertaking. The signal fire, after energetically blazing for several months, died away—from which our astronomer inferred that the Martians had come to the conclusion that the inhabitants of the earth were either too inhospitable to respond to their overtures, or too ignorant to appreciate the meaning of the signal.

M. Flammarion accepts the Schiaparelli theory of a system of canals on Mars as an established fact. These canals, he thinks, serve to conduct the melting snows from the poles to the great basins in the valleys, from which the water is distributed over the surface in smaller canals, which are discernible through high grade telescopes. If this is true, the Martians are evidently intelligent enough to maintain a very thorough and effective system of irrigation.

But with all his learning and research, M. Flammarion's conclusions are after all, only guesses. It is possible that some day telescopes powerful enough to enable us to see objects on the surface of Mars as large as a big city building may be manufactured. Until that time comes our knowledge of the actual conditions on the surface of the red planet must necessarily be almost entirely speculative and theoretical.

Down to Hard Facts.

Testy Old Gent—Huh? Do you think you can support my daughter in the style to which she has been accustomed?

Young Suitor—Well, no; but I can support her in the style to which her mother was accustomed for a good many years after she married you.

Old Gent (subdued)—Take her, my son, and be happy.—New York Weekly.

A Cannibal.

"Mr. Smiley, what is a cannibal?"

"A cannibal? Why do you want to know, my boy?"

"'Cause last night when you said you favored carrying out the old principle of dog eating dog pa whispered to me and said: 'Oh, what a cannibal!'"—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Had an Alternative.

Pilrey—And because you couldn't find a nickel to pay the fare, did the conductor make you get off and walk?

Jayson—No; he only made me get off. I could have sat on the street if I'd wanted to.—Roxbury Gazette.

He Gave Her Up.

McGinnis—How is the old woman, Pat?

O'Rourke—Worse. She's dead.—Cleveland Leader.

She Was a Talker.

"Josephine had a quiet wedding, didn't she?"

"Oh, no; she had to be there, you know."

Our Serial Story.

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THE FELLOW PASSENGERS:

A Mystery and Its Solution.

By RIVINGTON PYE,

Author of "THE MAN WHO DISAPPEARED," "LONDON OF THE PAST," &c., &c

CHAPTER IX.

It will be remembered that Mr. Ormrod, when he called at his daughter's, on this eventful morning—Saturday—was on the way to the station. Business took him to Manchester, and kept him there fully employed till late in the day. Indeed, it was not till about 5 o'clock that he found himself endowed with a moment of leisure.

A day or two previously he had made up his mind that he badly needed a new hat. And being not altogether satisfied with the Widdon article, such as he generally bought, he had been cogitating since whether or not to patronize Manchester. To be sure, carrying the hat home all the way was a bother; but, then, advantages of any kind are, generally, only obtained at the expense of bother. Just now, on casting his eyes around, he found himself in the neighborhood of a hatter's, whom he knew well by reputation. This decided him. He at once entered the shop to make his purchase.

The street was Market street. The shop, Robinson's—the place already mentioned by the cabman.

A fussy old gentleman was inside, and fully occupied the attention of the sole shopman for the time being. The latter hastily placed a chair for Mr. Ormrod, and muttered an apology. Then Mr. Ormrod was left free to indulge in his own reflections for the space of a minute.

He did not care to sit down. He liked better to walk about and inspect the stock; and, especially—being himself a tradesman—to pry into the way in which Robinson's business was carried on.

Suddenly a very battered silk hat, thrown down into an out-of-the-way corner, attracted his attention. What a strange object for a shop like this! He pounced down on it, and began to turn it round in his hands.

The name inside—that of the seller—was familiar. It was "Cockram, Widdon"—the very establishment Mr. Ormrod had formerly patronized.? Some one else, evidently, had forestalled Mr. Ormrod in transference of custom.

Interested by this small coincidence, Mr. Ormrod examined the hat more narrowly. On the headband inside he detected that some words had once been written—the name of the owner, no doubt. He tried to decipher them, but in vain. Much wear and the action of grease had rendered them all but illegible. The initial letters remained, and here and there a stroke in the body of the word—but all the rest had gone. The names were two in number, and began with a "W" and a "B." After a moment it dawned on Mr. Ormrod that there was something familiar in the formation of these letters. He had seen the writing before somewhere! Most likely he knew the writer. This discovery mightily increased his interest in the hat.

He himself had a prudent habit of inserting within the headbands of his hats a visiting card, or some such token of ownership, as a precaution against loss. He was fond, too, of recommending his friends to do the same, backing up his advice with a story of how once a hat of his had been saved from marauding hands by this. Now, quite mechanically, his fingers wandered inside the band and turned it down, to find out whether the late owner of this article had a similar habit.

The fussy gentleman had by this time been served, and his purchase was being boxed up by the shopman. In a moment more the latter would be at liberty, and would make a descent on Mr. Ormrod for his order.

The old gentleman's eyes glanced furtively at the shopman as a tiny bit of paper—disturbed by his fingers—fluttered downwards from inside the hat. Another little coincidence! The late owner of the battered hat was a practicer of Mr. Ormrod's precaution. It was with quite a feeling of trepidation that Mr. Ormrod stooped down to pick up the tell-tale scrap.

Furtive as his glance had been, his method of disposing of the piece of paper was still more crafty. He had no sooner glanced at it than he slipped it quietly into his pocket. For the name he read thereon was "Walter Broadhurst"—the name of his absent son-in-law.

He recognized the handwriting at once. The name was not only Walter's name, but the writing was Walter's writing. He understood now why the nearly obliterated words on the outside of the leather band had struck him as familiar.

Why he pocketed the scrap of paper he would not easily have explained—at the moment. He had no reason for acting so, except that he felt that there was something uncanny about the incident. As Walter's hat, though, had passed out of its late owner's possession, might it not be as well to rob it of this now useless token of ownership?

At this moment the shopman came forward, and the battered old hat had to be laid down. But thoughts of it were not so easily put aside. The subject fastened on Mr. Ormrod's mind, and caused him to answer the shopman's inquiries as to his own wants somewhat wildly.

Walter's hat—in a Manchester shop—in a badly damaged condition! Here were three topics, over which the kindly old gentleman brooded, to the exclusion of other subjects, until his mind approached distraction.

The hat could not have rested where he found it for very long—not for more than twenty-four hours. Consequently, Walter must have been in Manchester and in the shop, either this same morning, or the previous evening. But, why? Walter had no possible reason, on his journey home, for turning aside to Manchester. It was twenty miles out of his way, and in the opposite direction, too, to Widdon.

Then, again, the battered condition of the hat —. That seemed to have some reference to the railway accident. If so, Walter had been in the ill-fated train, after all—had come as far in it, on his way home, as Gulby. But even in that case, a journey from Gulby to Manchester—away from, instead of towards, his wife—was totally inexplicable. Mr. Ormrod (it must be borne in mind) knew nothing as yet but what the morning paper had told him.

His manner was so pre-occupied, and his remarks to the shopman were so vague, that the latter began to scrutinize him questioningly. Mr. Ormrod, at length, could bear the suspense no longer. A little to the shopman's bewilderment, he put aside the subject of his own wants and adverted to the topic of the hat.

"Have you had this long?" he asked abruptly.

"What, sir? This old hat?"

"Yes."

"Oh, only since last night. I'd quite forgotten about it, or I'd got rid of it. Battered, isn't it?"

"Yes, that it is. How did it come to you?"

"Oh, gentleman came in last night—just before closing time—had an accident, he said—just been thrown out of a cab. He left us this and bought a new one."

"H'm! It's Widdon make," Mr. Ormrod observed. "I know Cockram pretty well. Shouldn't wonder if I know the gentleman, too. Was he a Widdon man, do you think?"

"Couldn't say, sir," said the shopman, briskly. "I fancied at the time he was on a journey. Seemed in a big hurry, and kept his cab at the door. I noticed, too, that he had a bag with him in the cab."

"Stranger and stranger! The affair grew positively bewildering. Walter Broadhurst, ordinarily, was not the man to behave in this fashion—to rush about Manchester in cabs, and buy new hats on the spur of the moment. He couldn't afford it for one thing. And yet this scrap of paper that Mr Ormrod had found proved that the person in question was Walter. What did it all mean?

Just then a gentleman entered the shop and asked for the proprietor. In a little while Mr. Robinson appeared. It then transpired that the gentleman was Inspector Marsh, and that his business was to inquire about this same tell-tale hat.

"Wilkins," the proprietor called out; "where is that old hat you were telling me about? Have you kept it?"

"Yes, sir," the shopman replied. "Here it is."

The shopman left Mr. Ormrod, and, taking the hat, joined the other two. The question, being spoken loudly, attracted the old gentleman's attention, and he stayed to see what would come of it.

"Just tell this officer," Mr. Robinson commanded, "all you know of the circumstances in which the hat was left here."

Wilkins at once complied, repeating the details he had just furnished to Mr. Ormrod.

"Can you describe this person?" the inspector asked.

Wilkins tried, but showed that description was not his strong point.

"Well—he was tall—and dark looking," he said, stumblingly.

"Beard—mustache—clothes," the inspector suggested.

"No beard, and not much mustache," the shopman said. "I didn't notice his clothes beyond the fact that he wore a long, dark overcoat, which was slightly cut and dirty."

"H'm! Did he buy a silk hat in place of this?"

"Yes; a good one."

The inspector turned the hat over in his fingers. Neither the maker's name nor the half-obliterated handwriting on the band escaped him. Both were clues; and the latter might prove of special service.

"Widdon make, eh!" the inspector cogitated. "H'm! the man gave an address at Widdon. Initials "W. B." correspond, too, with the name he furnished. This hat will prove useful."

Marsh then borrowed from Mr. Robinson a powerful magnifying glass, and proceeded to inspect the writing. He satisfied himself that the first name was Walter; but the second did not look quite like Buckle—though what it had been he couldn't determine.

All this took but a few minutes to enact—less time almost than will be occupied in reading its narration. And, meanwhile, a little in the background, Mr. Ormrod had posed as a spectator.

His brain was in a whirl. This hat was Walter's—and the police were on his track. What had the man done?

Mr. Ormrod now stepped forward. He could bear the suspense no longer.

"What's up?" he asked, lamely. "Something wrong about the hat?"

The inspector looked him over supercilliously. "That's my business," he retorted. "Still, I don't mind saying this much—there's something wrong and very much wrong, about the late owner of the hat."

"What has he been doing?" Mr. Ormrod asked. He felt that he was bungling, and might do Walter an injury, but couldn't keep back the question.

The inspector turned on his heel. "The newspapers will tell you in a day or two," he said shortly.

"I was examining the hat before you came in," Mr. Ormrod persisted. "It's Widdon make, and I come from Widdon myself, I thought, perhaps, I might have known the owner."

The old gentleman could hardly, had he planned for a week, have said anything better calculated than this to unlock the inspector's heart—though he stumbled into the revelation, rather than made it of set purpose. It at once occurred to Marsh that Mr. Ormrod might be of use.

A question or two passed as to who and what Mr. Ormrod was. The latter had little difficulty in satisfying the inspector that he was a man of some standing. Marsh then became more communicative.

"The fact is," said Marsh, "I'm on the look-out for a person who passes under the name of Walter Buckle. This, here, is his hat; and most likely this writing inside the hat is his writing. He gave his address, last night, as 32 Edinburgh-terrace, Widdon; but from inquiry made there I find that that was a wrong address. Do you happen, now, to know a man of that name?"

Mr. Ormrod, with returning presence of mind, replied truthfully in the negative.

The inspector then went on to describe the man who was wanted; but Mr. Ormrod, less truthfully, with feigned regret, declared himself unable to help.

"Ah, well," said the inspector, "I must take some other quarter. Shouldn't wonder now, if that hatter at Widdon will be able to tell me something."

For over a minute Mr. Ormrod had had a question on his lips—a question which he much wanted to ask, but which he feared the inspector would be loth to answer. He now blurted it out without ceremony—

"Is it a big thing—anything serious, I mean?"

"What? Oh, what the man's wanted for. Yes, it is pretty big. But the papers will tell you all about it."

The inspector departed in his cab, taking the dilapidated hat with him; and soon afterwards Mr. Ormrod also left the shop. To say that the latter gentleman was bewildered would be to describe his mental state very weakly.

Why had Walter come to Manchester? What caused the smashing of the hat? And, above all, what wrong thing had he done that the police should be on his track?

Could it be that he had gone through the accident and come out with a demented mind? Such things have happened. Walter's family history, indeed, made such an effect seem not unlikely. This theory, certainly, would explain much; yet—yet even it would not satisfactorily account for Inspector Marsh's inquiry.

Just before the inspector's advent, Mr. Ormrod had hit upon this as a tenable explanation. Now, though, he felt a dwindling confidence in its correctness And yet, cogitate as he might, he could not arrive at any other that seemed more likely.

Weary at length, of arguing out the matter—an operation as profitless as thrashing straw—he decided to postpone some small remaining items of business, and to make his way homeward. It was important that his daughter should learn quickly of the suspicion which hung over her husband's head.

CHAPTER X.

Bob Nicholls was (as has already been remarked) but a casual reader of the newspapers. When he did buy one, it was generally of the sporting type. Sport seemed to him so much more interesting than politics.

On this Saturday morning, though, his eye was caught by the flare of the contents bills, and he invested a penny in the Telegraph. Usually he hadn't time to read the placards, as he only arrived at the station when his train was coming in. On this occasion, for a wonder—owing to the clocks being fast—he got there a minute too soon.

The bills ran thus:

TERRIBLE RAILWAY ACCIDENT IN LANCASTER.
MAIL TRAIN WRECKED.
FIVE PERSONS KILLED.
TWENTY-TWO INJURED.

This in itself was sufficiently "catchy," and owing to Bob's interest in his friend, his mind, that morning, was in an impressionable mood.

The first glance at the news appalled him. It was really Walter's train that had come into collision. And it was from among the travelers by that that the victims had been selected.

He searched nervously through the lists of killed and injured, breathing freely once more when he found his friend's name absent. "Thank Go!" he exclaimed with fervour. And then, while his face was buried in the sheet, his accustomed train rolled in, took up fresh passengers, and departed citywards without him.

The next train was due in twenty minutes, and before it came up, Bob had devoured the whole account. At the last moment he was joined by Charlie Howarth, the friend he had visited over night.

The latter began to speak in a bantering tone, but the expression on Bob's face stopped him.

"Have you read about the accident?" Bob asked, gravely.

This spectacle of Bob—the despiser of printed matter—interested in a newspaper, and voluntarily speaking about what he had read there—was a severe trial to his friend. However, the latter managed to keep a serious face.

"Oh, yes," he replied. "Bad affair, isn't it?"

Bob paused for a moment. Then he resumed. "You saw that man I had with me on Thursday? He was in it."

Charlie now recollected that Bob had mentioned seeing his friend off by the 1:30. He could understand, in these circumstances, his companion's unusual soberness of manner.

"The deuce!" he ejaculated. Adding quickly, "Was he hurt?"

"He seems not to have been," said Bob, perplexedly. "Anyway, the Telegraph doesn't give his name. I can't make it out, though, at all."

"Can't make what out? Did you expect him to be hurt?"

"It's just this way," explained Bob; "when he started he was in that second compartment of the second carriage where the two dead passengers were found. And, not only that, but he was sitting facing that American I told you about. Well, here's the American's name among the killed—George W. Dent, of New York. I'll be bound that's the same man. Now, the paper says that everybody in that compartment suffered more or less severely, and it gives the name of a woman and child as the only persons who escaped with their lives."

Bob paused, leaving his remarks incomplete.

"Well?" ejaculated Charlie, questioningly.

"Well, where was Walter? That's what I want to know."

Charles pondered a bit. "He must have changed compartments," he concluded, sagely, "unless the papers are wrong."

Bob glanced up with a sudden look of relief. "By jove! that's it. I didn't think of that," he said. "Charlie you're a brick!"

Under the stimulus of this expression of confidence Charlie exerted his brains quite strenuously.

"Of course, that's it," he said. "Weren't you telling me somethg. by-the-bye, about some unpleasantness with another passenger—ah, yes, with that American? There's a reason for you, ready made."

Bob jumped at a bound from anxiety to confidence. Charlie's theory was so cogent—even his reason, though an afterthought, was convincing.

"By jove!" he exclaimed; "but wasn't it lucky! That Yank did him a good turn after all. If it hadn't been for his cheek, Walter would, no doubt, have stayed on in that compartment, and might have been killed, or maimed for life."

Before they parted, at the lower end of Moorgate street, Charlie suggested to his friend that it would be a graceful act to send Broadhurst a telegram of congratulation. Bob concurred, and accordingly sent that message (already adverted to), which so puzzled Mrs. Broadhurst; it being the first intimation she had that her husband actually started by the unfortunate train.

This done, Bob thought the affair at an end. It left his brain, though, in an excited state. The fact of knowing some one who was in the train gave him a sort of personal connection with the mishap, and of this he availed himself with quite boyish naivete. He talked, indeed, so incessantly to his fellow clerks that at length the manager had to interfere, and to point out brutally that the occurrence did not absolve Bob from the duty of proceeding with his ordinary work.

Almost immediately after the unfeeling check came Nellie's telegram, which puzzled Bob even more than his own message had puzzled the folks at Widdon. "Quarrel." "Walter still in London." "See him and make it up"—what in the name of reason was the meaning of all this? Had he not with his own eyes seen Walter start on the previous afternoon?

One thing only at first was clear, that Walter had not reached home. That was strange! And when Bob began to reflect and to calculate, he found it well nigh incomprehensible. For, after making the most generous allowance for delay caused by the accident, there was still time left, abundance of it, in which Walter might have finished the journey.

After various re-perusals of the message, a second fact, neglected at first, began to stand out in relief—namely, that Nellie believed that her brother was still in London. "Still," by-the-bye, seemed to imply that he had never left the place. Now Bob knew better than that; but in the midst of so much that was exciting, he was not inclined to harp too strongly on a mere word.

However, if Walter were in London, which was a ridiculous supposition, he would be at Killick's—or tidings of him would be obtainable there. Now Killick's Hotel was in a respectable spot, Chester-street, Strand—within a penny 'bus ride of the office. Bob at once made up his mind to pay the hotel a visit a soon as he was free. He then proceeded to draw up a reply to his sweetheart's message.

Soon after one o'clock he left the office, but a football match in which he was down to play kept him engaged till five. On his way to the ground he dispatched his second message to Nellie; in which (as will be remembered) he stated positively that Walter left Euston by the ill-fated train—and also announced that he would make inquiry for him at the hotel.

The latter engagement he carried out between five and six o'clock. The girl who kept the hotel books did not at first, though, reveal the name.

"Mr. Broadhurst," she repeated, turning over the pages of the biggest volume. "Oh, yes! I remember now. No. 34. No, he is not here at present. He left yesterday morning immediately after breakfast."

"But hasn't he come back?" Bob queried.

The girl shook her head with great self-possession. "No. We haven't seen him since. He said nothing about returning."

With his brain in a greater whirl than ever, Bob made his way back to the Strand. Here, from the Charing Cross office he sent a further telegram to Widdon—the third day. The message ran as follows:

"Walter not at Killick's. Where is he? Has he reached home yet?"

He began to feel a little angry with the absent man. Was this some game of Walter's? If so, it was one of which Bob could not see the fun.

"Hanged if I'll worry myself any more about him," he muttered, as he jumped on a bus. "If Walter likes playing hide and seek, and finds it amusing, why let him."

It then occurred to Bob that he had been a little premature in sending off this last message. Walter (granting his return to London, might have put up somewhere else than at Killick's; he might, in that case, have sent his friend—to the latter's private address—some intimation of this, and an explanation of his change of plan. The letter might even now be waiting him at his lodgings in Elizabeth street. A last little glimmery of hope arose, and kept Bob from feeling utterly defeated.

But this only made the darkness more intense when it proved to be unfounded. No letter had come—no gentleman had called: his landlady was positive on both points. Whatever Walter's "little game" might be, he plainly didn't intend to take Bob into the secret.

The latter had some tea, though he felt too disgusted with the world at large, to eat much. He then lay down for half an hour, thinking with unusual profundity. The upshot of these cogitations was a decision to go across to No. 12 and ask for Charlie Howarth's opinion on the subject.

As he approached the house, he saw that the ground floor was lit up. Mrs. Kennet, apparently had got a fresh tenant. At another time, perhaps, he might have made this the subject of a little friendly chaff. Just now, though, he felt too heavily burdened with his own trouble to do more than merely notice the fact.

Little Maudie Kennet—a chubby girl of nineteen opened the door. She grinned on seeing Bob, and whispering "See here!" held out her hand. In the palm lay a shilling, presumably a gift. She pointed in high glee at the partly-opened door of the sitting room.

Through the chink came light, and the sound of crockery. Not only were the rooms let, but the new lodger was in possession. Bob noted the fact, smiled at the girl's delight, and began to ascend the stairs. Maudie jumped nimbly after him, and playfully grabbed his coat.

"He's giv it me,' she whispered—'the new lodger."

At this moment, Mrs. Kennet, bearing a tray, came out of the room, where she had been laying the table. She carried herself stiffer and straighter than usual, from which Bob inferred that the newcomer was a person of some consequence. He bade her a genial "good evening," to which she replied briefly, and in her stateliest tones. To his surprise, she made no attempt to follow up this opening, but passed on towards the lower regions with a novel dignity of manner. Bob could not help smiling at the change which twenty-four hours had brought forth.

"Who is he?" he asked of Maudie.

"I don't know his name yet," said the child. "But I like him, and so does ma. He's got lots and lots of money."

At this moment, in dulcet tones, the child's name was called from below. "Maudie, dear—want you." Bob had never before credited his landlady with the possession of such a voice. Maudie, too, instantly obeyed—a thing which did not always follow. Really, the whole house seemed transformed.

He opened his friend's door, half expecting to find Charlie, also, under the influence of the prevailing infection. To his great relief, though, Charlie was the same as usual—but a little out of temper. Maudie had been promoted to attend on him, vice her mother, more peculiarly engaged elsewhere; and the child, with artless candour, had made it evident that the new lodger was the reigning favorite. Charlie felt hurt at this sudden deposition.

"I don't know who the fellow is," he said shortly, in answer to Bob's question, "and, what's more, I don't care. He's just come to London, and he's got heaps of cash—that's all I've heard. He may be a smasher or a forger for anything I know."

When Charlie had calmed down a bit—which happened after he had poured out the story of his woes—Bob began to speak of his own disquietude. More particularly, he discussed—at some length—the mystery which surrounded his Widdon friend's movements.

"Oh, hang you and your friend," said Charlie at length, after an unsuccessful effort at patience. "He's got home by this. Don't you muddle your head about him. Here—look at this paper for a minute, while I go into the next room."

Bob took up the journal which Charlie tossed towards him, and turning to the third page began to read the latest news from Gulby. He found there certain revelations—already known to the reader, but quite new to him—which for the moment took away his breath.

He ran on to the landing, and summoned his friend. "Charlie, come here. I want you," he exclaimed.

"Well—what's up now," growled Charlie, emerging from his bedroom.

"Read this," said Bob. "Here—this third paragraph."

The following is what met Charlie's eye:

"A remarkable piece of news is telegraphed from Gulby. It seems that the passenger described as George W. Bent, of New York, one of the two killed in the accident, is a swindler, who is wanted by the police. Particulars of his crime were given in our yesterday's issue, but we were not then aware that he was in our midst . . . . From various facts that have come to light it is believed that he was accompanied in the train by at least one associate—if not two. A pass

the main facts, insisting specially on the seeming connection between Walter's absence and the suspicions of the police; touching, also, upon his own close connection with the suspected man's sister. "Now, if you were me, what would you do?" he demanded, at the finish.

Charlie pondered. "I don't see what you can do. If he's innocent, the police——"

"Oh, they may not find out their m's-take for days," said Bob impatiently. "They're so slow. I can't stand by and do nothing. Besides, I want to satisfy myself."

"Well!"

"I can only see one thing—to go down to Widdon, and find out how things are."

Charlie did not seem to disapprove. "H'm—when?" he asked. To-night?"

"If there's a train."

Charlie got, momentarily, more approving. "I've an A B C here," he said willingly.

"I'll look."

Bob sank wearily into a chair.

"Train at 10 o'clock," Charlie announced. He glanced at his watch. "That would be rather a tight fit," he continue. "However, there's another at 12. Gets to Warrington 5:15. I suppose you could get a local train on from Warrington?"

"Oh, yes."

"You couldn't do better, then, than that," said Charlie.

Bob concurred gloomily, and decided to go. Charlie asked, in a considerate tone, if he wanted money, but Bob said he had plenty. It was then up to that Charlie should see him off from Euston.

TO BE CONTINUED.

HOME MADE LINGERIE.

A Wave of Sentiment Towards the Gathers "Scratched" by the Home Needle.

A mighty wave of sentiment has arisen against silk lingerie, and in its place there is a feeling towards home-made underwear. Gathers scratched by hand, ruffles hemmed with needle are the much-desired attributes of every trousseau. Be the materials cheap or dear, they must be made up at home.

An exquisite corset cover that a November bride has in her trousseau is made of white satin ribbon. The ribbon is sewed in perpendicular strips with a narrow beading of narrow lace, and it fits into the curves of the figure in a most marvelous way. The yoke is of duchesse lace tied at the shoulders with butterfly bows of white satin ribbon.

Around the bottom of the yoke there is a frill of cream mousseline de soie and nettes of satin ribbon. The corset cover opens at the front, but the ribbon is so dexterously hooked over that it is impossible to detect it. The bottom is finished in points. It can

HOME-MADE CORSET COVER.

only be worn over one of the regular short French corsets, as it is exceeding decollete.

Of course the corset cover could be made high and simple home-made laces and inexpensive cambric substituted for the more elaborate ones, and that, too, without any decrease in elegance.

WITH THE WITS.

The Good It Did.

Clerk—"Sir, I've joined the church."

Grocer—"Right glad to hear it; I've been a member for some years; it's a splendid thing, and——"

"Yes, sir; and will you get some other clerk to sell those pure spices now?"—Adams Freeman.

He Would Improve Then.

His wife—"Johnny's teacher sends word that he is very slow in arithmetic."

The iceman—"Oh, you can't learn much arithmetic from books, anyhow. Wait till Johnny is old enough to go into business with me."—Puck.

Would Stay on the Safe Side.

Young Wife—"I always thought you were the bravest man in the world while we were courting. You wouldn't go to Canada in case of another war, would you, dear?"

"Not if the war was with Canada."—Detroit Free Press.

Why She Grieved.

Her eyes were filled with unshed tears,
Her bosom heaved in woe.
I asked her to reveal her fears,
She mutely answered, "No."
"Tell me," I cried, "just what you mean,
Yes, now, this very minute!"
"The tint for fall," she sobbed, "is green,
And I look horrid in it!"
—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

A Timely Topic.

Brown—"Our minister spoke at length last Sunday on our financial situation."

Robinson—"That is hardly a proper subject for a clergyman."

Brown—"It isn't, eh? When the interest on the church mortgage is three months over-due?"—Brooklyn Life.

Double and Single.

Little Elmer—Pa, why is it that bachelors are so much more crabbed and cross than married men?"

Mr. Hennypeck—"Because they are not afraid to say what they think, my son."—Puck.

Infernal Machines.

Brown—"I hear that some anarchists on the East Side have been caught with infernal machines in their possession."

Robinson—"What kind of machines?"

Brown—"Accordions."—Puck.

—The two best medicines for consumption are Dr. Jayne's Expectorant and Alterative. They absorb the granules of disease and heal the lungs.

—Regulate your bowels with Jayne's Sanative Pills.

The Reason.

She—Ma says she knows that when we are married we won't live so like cats and dogs as she and pa do.

He—No, indeed! Your ma is right.

She—Yes; she says she is sure you'll be easier to manage than pa is."—New York Weekly.

Knew He Was Licked.

The pugilist fell with a dull, sickening thud to the floor.

"Are you hurt?" asked the manager.

The fallen fighter gazed wildly at his friend.

The fighter shook his head.

Then the manager realized that the battle was lost.—New York World.

PEOPLE OF NOTE.

In spite of the sneers of Marie Corelli's critics her novel, The Murder of Delicia, recently published, is now in its thirteenth thousand.

Since the death of the head of the Harpers publishing firm the company has been reorganized into a stock company, with a capital of $2,000,000. All the stock is in the hands of the Harper family. The legal firm name is Harper & Brothers.

Mrs. Humphrey Ward, the author, is seldom seen in society. She was born in Tasmania, is 45 years old and has lived in England since she was five. She is a granddaughter of the late Dr. Arnold of Rugby. When she was 21 she married Humphrey Ward, art critic of the Times. Her long residence in Oxford and her college training explain a good deal in her books.

The remains of the late George du Maurier were cremated and the body of Kate Field will undergo the same process when it arrives from Honolulu. Other prominent people living who have expressed themselves in favor of cremation are Bishop Potter, Prof. Charles Eliot Norton, William Waldorf Astor, Edward Everett Hale, Andrew Carnegie, Charles Dudley Warner, Ella Wheeler Wilcox.

Anton Bruckner, the musical composer, who recently died in Vienna, aged 72, was a terror when he once began to play. Nothing could stop him. Once he was competing for the post of court organist at Vienna, where each candidate was allowed twenty-five minutes. He played a whole hour before the judges could stop him. Again, at the Crystal palace he played till he exhausted the organ blowers and the wind gave out. His best known work, the eighth symphony in C, takes a whole evening for its performance.

Question Bureau.

RULES.—1.—Real name and address must be written with every question. 2.—Only one question at a time. 3.—Don't ask for addresses of persons, or firms, nor where to buy or sell anything, for such answers are free advertising. 4.—Don't ask about the reliability of any person or firm. 5.—We reserve the right to reject any question whose answer would not be of general interest; and will answer no mathematical problems, questions of law, etc. 6.—No answers by mail.

Knights of the Golden Circle.

J. H. J., Ohioville, Pa.: An organization known as the Knights of the Golden Circle had existed at the South before the Civil war. It was composed of men opposed to the North and anxious for separation. About 1862 this organization took root in the West, its principal object being to hinder the draft of soldiers. It was variously known as Mutual Protection Society, as Circle of Honor, as the Circle, and as Knights of the Mighty Host. The exposure of some of its signs and secrets led the Confederate General Sterling Price to organize in Missouri a new society known as the Corps de Belgique, in honor of the Belgian consul at St. Louis Charles L. Hunt, who was Price's principal assistant. This organization finally became part of the Order of American Knights, organized by C. L. Vallandigham, of Ohio, and P. C. Wright, of New York. The object of this society was to resist the draft and to encourage desertion among Union soldiers, to aid the Confederates by giving them information and by recruiting for their ranks, and to establish a Northwestern Confederacy. Some of the secrets of the order having been learned by the Federal authorities, it was reorganized in 1864; its new name was Order of the Sons of Liberty, or Knights of the Order of the Sons of Liberty. Its organization was of a military nature; in 1864 the number of its members was estimated at from 250,000 to 800,000, among whom it is said, was Jefferson Davis; among its supreme commanders were Wright and Vallandigham. H. H. Dodd, one of its highest officers, was arrested for conspiracy against the government, but he escaped punishment. Locally ultimately escaped punishment. Locally ultimately escaped punishment; the order was known by different names; in Illinois branches were known as Illini, Peace Organization, Democratic Invincible Club; in Kentucky, as Star Organization. Dem ocratic Leaders Union; in Missouri, as American Organization; in New York, as McClellan Minute Men. With the war, of course, its reason for being came to an end.

Mormon Belief.

"I should be glad if you would publish in your paper—to which I am a subscriber—any information about the religious belief of the Mormons, and any information about their numbers, etc."—P. B., New Iberia, La.

We can only give you a brief sketch of the Mormon belief. They accept the Bible, but say the Book of Mormon is a later continuation of it, and of equal and sometimes greater authority. The Book of Mormon" is a collection of 16 distinct books, professing to be written at different periods by successive prophets. It professes to give the history of Lehi, a Jew of the time of King Zedekiah, about 600 B. C., and his family. He had a command from the Lord, to which he and his family crossed Asia, sailed across the Pacific and lived in America. The books consist of a narrative of transactions in North and South America, and the final destruction of the descendants of Lehi.

The Mormon church teaches that there are many gods, and that eminent saints become gods in heaven, and rise one above another in power and glory of infinity. Joseph Smith is now the god of this generation. His superior god is Jesus, whose superior god and father is Adam. Above Adam is Jehovah, and above Jehovah is Elohim. All of these gods have many wives, and they all rule over their own descendants, who are constantly increasing in number and dominion. The glory of a saint when he becomes a god depends in some degree on the number of his wives and children, and therefore polygamy is inculcated and wives are "sealed" to saints here on earth to augment their power in the heavens. The gods are in the form of men, and they are the fathers of the souls of men in this world. Baptism and the sacrament are considered the rule of life, together with a revelation given to Joseph Smith, February 27, 1833, which is called "A Word of Wisdom." Infant baptism is condemned, but the children of the saints are considered old enough at eight years to be baptized. Baptism for the dead is practiced, a living person being publicly baptized as the representative of one or more deceased persons. Washington, Franklin and other famous men have thus been vicariously baptized into the church. There have been many dispensations of religious truth, beginning with Adam and ending with the greatest of all, that through Joseph Smith.

Demonetization.

"Please tell me when silver was demonetized, if ever. Also give definition of demonetized."—H. J. M., Sycamore, O.

To "demonetize" is to deprive of its power as money. The act of 1873 simply stopped the coinage of the silver dollar; it did not affect the legal tender quality of any of those coins in existence. The act of 1878 limited the legal tender power of all silver up to $5, including the silver dollar. The Bland act of 1878 restored the silver dollars, not only those coined under it, but all others in existence, to full and unlimited legal tender.

Minnesota's Boundary.

"Please explain why the northern boundary line of Minnesota, instead of extending along the southern shore of the Lake of the Woods, dips northward at the one-half degree, between meridians 94 degrees 45 minutes and 95 degrees 5 minutes."—F. N. G., Fruitland, N. C.

It arises from the wording of the treaty setting forth the boundary line, we believe, as stated, and so the western shore of the Lake of the Woods, north of the line of the boundary, and entirely surrounded by British territory, belongs to Minnesota. Any one will send the exact facts we shall be glad to publish them.

Military Schools.

"Will you be kind enough to tell what studies a young man will be required to be educated in before he can be admitted to a military school?"—M. S. T., Spokane, Wash.

The requirements differ with the individual schools. The best plan is to write to the one you think of entering, asking for a catalogue and conditions of entrance.

Pennsylvania Canals.

"In what year was the Pittsburg & Johnstown canal first opened to navigation? What relation, of any, did the reservoir that caused the great flood at Johnstown have to the canal? In the early fifties what was the mode of travel between Pittsburg and Philadelphia, via the above named canal?"—C. M. B., Pomeroy, Wash.

We are sorry to say we can find very little about the canals of Pennsylvania, and do not know when they were constructed. The Johnstown reservoir was originally built to collect waters to feed the canal. When the latter was abandoned it was leased by a club of gentlemen and used as a hunting and fishing resort. The canal boats were carried over the Alleghanies by a system of inclined planes, the ruins of which are visible at different points from the cars on the Pennsylvania railroad. If any reader will send us the facts inquired for concerning these canals, and a description of the mode of using the inclined planes, we will be glad to publish it.

Republican Platform.

"Will you please state who composed the Republican platform? Some here seem to think that Mr. Cleveland wrote it."—A. J. S., Kellogg, Iowa.

The St. Louis platform was prepared by the committee on resolutions, which is always composed of one delegate from each state, selected by the delegates from that state. The chairman of the committee was Senator Foraker, of Ohio. There were hundreds of suggestions brought by delegates from all over the country, which were considered and discussed by the committee. The committee then prepared the platform, and reported it to the convention, which adopted it. We pity the people in your vicinity if they are so foolish as to imagine that Cleveland, or any Democrat, was consulted about anything in the platform.

Secretary Carlisle.

"A Popocrat here says Secretary Carlisle is 'a rascal,' because he does not pay out silver instead of gold for government bonds. Under the present law, where the bonds say coin, if a man holding an United States bond, should present the same and demand gold, could he get it by law, or would Mr. Carlisle have the power to compel him to take silver? This man claims that Mr. Carlisle was given the power in writing. This is why he calls Carlisle a rascal."—A. J. S., Kellogg, Iowa.

The whole statement of your Popocrat friend betrays his utter lack of knowledge of the whole subject. No government bonds have become due since Carlisle became Secretary of the Treasury; hence he has never been called on to redeem a single one. The next bonds to mature are the 5 per cents of 1904, which become due then—eight years hence.

There is not a government bond outstanding for which the government did not receive gold value. It is in honor bound to redeem them at gold value.

This does not mean that actual gold coin must be paid out for them, but that they shall be paid in money which passes for as much as gold. As a matter of fact, when bonds are redeemed it is done at the sub-Treasury in New York city, and they are actually paid in greenbacks. Business men do not care to handle large sums in coin, because it is inconvenient. If a man needs gold for any special purpose, he can get it by presenting greenbacks at the sub-Treasury.

Remember this—the interest on the government bonds, and the bonds themselves, when they are due, are both paid in greenbacks as a matter of fact. But a greenback dollar is worth a gold dollar, and will be worth that much so long as the holder can get it redeemed in gold on demand.

Suppose a warehouse man stored grain, both wheat and corn, for farmers, and gave them receipts, stating the number of bushels they stored with him; suppose these receipts read so many "bushels," without saying whether it was wheat or corn. Suppose a farmer who had stored 100 bushels of wheat should go to get it, and the warehouse man should offer him corn instead of wheat; can you not see that the value of the storage receipt would be only the value of 100 bushels of corn, instead of 100 bushels of wheat? That is what your Popocrat friend is kicking about. He wants Uncle Sam to refuse to pay the value he received, but cheat the holders of bonds by paying them in silver only.

Free Silver.

"Please state in what years we had the free and unlimited coinage of silver in the United States."—F. L., West Beaver, O.

The law permitted it from 1792 up to 1873. However, after the coinage act of 1834 was passed, as the silver in the silver dollar was worth a little more than a dollar, but little silver was taken to the mint, because it was worth more as bullion than as coin. The silver, that went to the mint was chiefly old foreign coin, as it was cheaper to have the government bring it to standard than to have it done by private parties.

Malignant Falsehoods.

"The Democrats claim that Mark Hanna has a mortgage on McKinley for more than he can ever pay, and that he virtually will simply be a tool in the hands of Mark Hanna and his money. Is this true or not."—W. F. M., Warnic, Ore.

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Some of each issue are registered—that is, the holder must register the bonds he buys at the treasury, the others are coupons. Mr. Hanna was one of the contributors to the fund. The notes were paid, and were placed in the hands of Mrs. McKinley by Mr. Kohlsaat himself, with quite a grave lecture on economy. Mr. Hanna has not the notes, and never had them. Have not the people of your vicinity sense enough to know that the notes being paid, they could not be collected again, and that no court could compel payment a second time?

Mexican Dollars.

"Will you please inform me, as soon as soon as convenient, as to the actual value of the Mexican silver dollar? Does it pass in the Mexican Republic at its bullion value?"—W. C., South Elgin, Ill.

The Mexican silver dollar will buy, in Mexico, just what the amount of pure silver in it is worth. It contains 377.25 grains.

Mints and Assay Offices.

"How many mints are in the United States, and where located? To purify silver and gold, are there places for that, other than in the mints, called assay offices and where are they located? If so, can the silver under free coinage go to the mint, how much of that silver and how much alloy will they put in that dollar, and how much must the party bear of the expense?"—W. C., Huntington, Ind.

The principal mint of the United States is at Philadelphia; there are others at San Francisco, Carson City and New Orleans. The United States assay offices take gold or silver bullion, ascertain its fineness, and then pay to the depositor the value in coin. If desired, for which services the owner of the bullion pays the actual cost. There is one at New York and one at Denver. We do not know where any others are located.

Under free coinage, if you took standard silver to the mint, it would be coined free of charge. If it were not standard, it would be brought to standard, and you would be charged the actual cost of doing so. A silver dollar contains 371.25 grains of fine silver and 41.25 grains of alloy, which is pure copper. The coin thus weighs 412.5 grains.

Helen Kellar.

"Please tell what made Helen Kellar deaf, dumb and blind."—E. C. S., Collins Center, N. Y.

When she was an infant, a very severe attack of scarlet fever caused the loss of sight and hearing. Her lack of speech was, of course, because she could not hear.

Redemption Fund.

"National banks are required to deposit a 5 per cent redemption fund. What is this and why is it?"—W. T. S., Cameron, W. Va.

National banks are required to keep on deposit in the United States treasury a sum equal to 5 per cent of their circulation, in gold or greenbacks. Whenever any notes of that bank are presented to the government for redemption, they are redeemed out of this fund, and a requisition is made on the bank for the amount, asking for a catalogue and conditions of entrance.

Pennsylvania Canals.

"In what year was the Pittsburg & Johnstown canal first opened to navigation? What relation, of any, did the reservoir that caused the great flood at Johnstown have to the canal? In the early fifties what was the mode of travel between Pittsburg and Philadelphia, via the above named canal?"—C. M. B., Pomeroy, Wash.

We are sorry to say we can find very little about the canals of Pennsylvania, and do not know when they were constructed. The Johnstown reservoir was originally built to collect waters to feed the canal. When the latter was abandoned it was leased by a club of gentlemen and used as a hunting and fishing resort. The canal boats were carried over the Alleghanies by a system of inclined planes, the ruins of which are visible at different points from the cars on the Pennsylvania railroad. If any reader will send us the facts inquired for concerning these canals, and a description of the mode of using the inclined planes, we will be glad to publish it.

Republican Platform.

"Will you please state who composed the Republican platform? Some here seem to think that Mr. Cleveland wrote it."—A. J. S., Kellogg, Iowa.

The St. Louis platform was prepared by the committee on resolutions, which is always composed of one delegate from each state, selected by the delegates from that state. The chairman of the committee was Senator Foraker, of Ohio. There were hundreds of suggestions brought by delegates from all over the country, which were considered and discussed by the committee. The committee then prepared the platform, and reported it to the convention, which adopted it. We pity the people in your vicinity if they are so foolish as to imagine that Cleveland, or any Democrat, was consulted about anything in the platform.

Secretary Carlisle.

"A Popocrat here says Secretary Carlisle is 'a rascal,' because he does not pay out silver instead of gold for government bonds. Under the present law, where the bonds say coin, if a man holding an United States bond, should present the same and demand gold, could he get it by law, or would Mr. Carlisle have the power to compel him to take silver? This man claims that Mr. Carlisle was given the power in writing. This is why he calls Carlisle a rascal."—A. J. S., Kellogg, Iowa.

The whole statement of your Popocrat friend betrays his utter lack of knowledge of the whole subject. No government bonds have become due since Carlisle became Secretary of the Treasury; hence he has never been called on to redeem a single one. The next bonds to mature are the 5 per cents of 1904, which become due then—eight years hence.

There is not a government bond outstanding for which the government did not receive gold value. It is in honor bound to redeem them at gold value.

This does not mean that actual gold coin must be paid out for them, but that they shall be paid in money which passes for as much as gold. As a matter of fact, when bonds are redeemed it is done at the sub-Treasury in New York city, and they are actually paid in greenbacks. Business men do not care to handle large sums in coin, because it is inconvenient. If a man needs gold for any special purpose, he can get it by presenting greenbacks at the sub-Treasury.

Remember this—the interest on the government bonds, and the bonds themselves, when they are due, are both paid in greenbacks as a matter of fact. But a greenback dollar is worth a gold dollar, and will be worth that much so long as the holder can get it redeemed in gold on demand.

Suppose a warehouse man stored grain, both wheat and corn, for farmers, and gave them receipts, stating the number of bushels they stored with him; suppose these receipts read so many "bushels," without saying whether it was wheat or corn. Suppose a farmer who had stored 100 bushels of wheat should go to get it, and the warehouse man should offer him corn instead of wheat; can you not see that the value of the storage receipt would be only the value of 100 bushels of corn, instead of 100 bushels of wheat? That is what your Popocrat friend is kicking about. He wants Uncle Sam to refuse to pay the value he received, but cheat the holders of bonds by paying them in silver only.

Free Silver.

"Please state in what years we had the free and unlimited coinage of silver in the United States."—F. L., West Beaver, O.

The law permitted it from 1792 up to 1873. However, after the coinage act of 1834 was passed, as the silver in the silver dollar was worth a little more than a dollar, but little silver was taken to the mint, because it was worth more as bullion than as coin. The silver, that went to the mint was chiefly old foreign coin, as it was cheaper to have the government bring it to standard than to have it done by private parties.

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Merit

Is what gives Hood's Sarsaparilla its great popularity, increasing sales and wonderful cures. The combination, proportion and process in preparing Hood's Sarsaparilla are unknown to other medicines, and make it peculiar to itself. It acts positively upon the blood, and as the blood reaches every part of the human system, all the nerves, muscles, bones and tissues come under the influence of

Hood's Sarsaparilla

The One True Blood Purifier. All druggists. $1.

Hood's Pills cure Liver Ills; easy to take, easy to operate. 25 cents.

Deposit Bet.

"A claims that he bet B that McKinley would not carry the state of Ohio by 40,000, and B claims that A asked him (B), if he would bet on 40,000 in Ohio, and B said he would, and then they put up the money. Who wins?"—M. A. D., Tippecanoe, Ind.

If people will be foolish enough to bet, they should take pains to make the bet clear. It does not seem that A and B stated whether they were betting on a plurality or a majority. If the bet was on a plurality, B wins; if on a majority, A wins. We can not undertake to decide further than this, for we don't know what both had in mind when they made the bet.

Soldiers' Appointments.

"Please give us the plank about the United States soldiers' appointments in the postoffice service, and your comments."—J. D. G., Brazos, Tex.

We do not understand what plank you mean. There is no plank in the National Republican platform concerning the appointment of soldiers to the railway postal service.

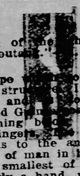
The Popular Vote.

"Give number of votes cast for McKinley and Bryan—I mean the popular vote of each."—D. D. T., Omega, Tenn.

See table of the popular vote on the 4th page of this paper.

The Chimpanzee.

"Please give an account of the chimpanzee, or African orang-outang."—J. N. W., Coventryville, N. Y.



The chimpanzee is the ape which comes nearest to man in bodily structure. It is a native of Africa only, and is found principally on the Congo and Gaboon rivers. The arms are long, reaching below the knee by the length of the fingers. The legs have a calf, but it extends to the ankle. The hand differs from that of man in having the thumb much the smallest of the fingers. The foot is properly a hand, with an extremely long and very powerful thumb. The chimpanzee walks erect more frequently than other apes, but stands with the feet much wider apart than man, and the knees much more bent; but it can not long maintain an erect position without support. It is 4 to 5 feet high when erect, covered with black hair, and its food is entirely vegetable.

A Kansas Question.

"The Pops here claim that any young unmarried man (without property) can leave the state for two years and return on the eve of the election and vote at that election on the 'temporary clause.'"—C. F. O., Kanona, Kan.

The law of Kansas requires a residence of 6 months within the state, and 30 days in the county, town and precinct. It is a clause, called the "temporary clause," modifying this, we know nothing about it. Consult the statutes of your state. You can not expect us to know all the provisions of the laws of every one of the 45 states in the Union.

Some Figures.

"Will you please give me McKinley's plurality vote in Ohio, Bryan's in Alabama, and McKinley's majority in Pennsylvania?"—M. M. C., Thumala Fork, Idaho.

McKinley's plurality in Ohio was 51,959; Bryan's in Alabama was 52,400; McKinley's majority in Pennsylvania was about 300,000, but we have not the full figures of all the candidates in that state.

Government Bonds.

"Will you kindly give me some information concerning government bonds. How much interest is paid, and how one should proceed to invest a few hundred dollars. If one could collect at the end of a year or two if so wished, and whatever information one would need to have before investing."—A. M. J., Emporia, Kas.

The only United States bonds outstanding are 4 per cent bonds of 1907, 5 per cent bonds of 1904, and 4 per cent bonds of 1925. The year means that they will then be due. These bonds have to be purchased from the following headings noted among the contents: Alboni—Henriette Sontag—Grisi—Mario—Viardot—"How I Composed 'Il Bacio'"—Piccolomini—Patti; Her Childhood—"I Hear Her Sing for the First Time"—Her Debut at Covent Garden—Mapleson becomes Impressario—Verdi—We Go to Paris—I Meet Rossini—Meyerbeer and "Faust"—Ferdinand Hiller—Gounod is Present—"Nozze di Figaro"—Friendship with Garibaldi—Production of Nicolai's "Merry Wives of Windsor"—The Grist-Mario Testimonial—Death of Nellson—Debut of Emma Thursby—Death of Gye—Gye's Pluck—Lillie Lehmann, etc.

The book is handsomely published by Dodd, Mead & Company, Fifth avenue and 21st street, New York. Price $3.50.

A Puritan's Wife, by Max Pemberton, will be welcomed by the many readers of this delightful writer. This story deals with the history of a Puritan who returns to England at the time of the restoration, but is not included in the amnesty granted by Charles the Second to many prominent Roundheads. It is a love story, of which the heroine is a noblewoman who took shelter with the hero's family during the Revolution, but came to riches at the restoration. The scene of the story in part is at Windsor Castle and at Hampstead, and later on at Oxford, where the court was during the last months of the plague. The author has a novel of intense and varied interest, and will claim a prominent place among the books of the season. Published by H. S. Stone & Co., Caxton building, Chicago.

Few people will have difficulty in remembering the profound sensation which the publication of The Wages of Sin caused some six years ago. The author, Lucas Malet, has now published his next serious work, entitled The Carissima. It is a novel of intense and varied interest, and will claim a prominent place among the books of the season. Published by H. S. Stone & Co., Caxton building, Chicago.

Chap-Book Stories will be welcomed by the many readers of the clever periodical in which these tales first appeared. In little stories of this kind the tendencies of the younger writers of the day, and, seen in bulk, even its freaks and eccentricities are shown to be representative of their sort, and are presented in a manner they are representative, and not because they are freakish. Published by H. S. Stone & Co., Chicago.

Country Clouds and Sunshine, by Clifton Johnson, is a delightful volume dealing with village life and character, the clouds and sunshine of the title being those of life rather than those of nature. The author has succeeded in catching the spirit of rural New England life, and in giving a very clear idea of its varying characteristics. That the author is thoroughly in touch with this subject is revealed by both pen and camera, and that there are shadows as well as sunshine in life is clearly shown. But when all is said, Mr. Johnson asserts that "a pleasant New England village, not too far removed from a large town and the railroad, is the best dwelling place in the world." And the many fine half-tones with which the text is illustrated from photographs taken among these country homes by the author, add strength to his assertion. Taken altogether, the work is one sure to give pleasure to all, and to meet with popular favor. Published by Lee & Shepard, Boston.

The Merry Five, by Penn Shirley, contains that element of funny incidents which mark this author's tales and delight the children. In this second volume of The Silver Gate Series the Rose family continue their sojourn on the Pacific coast, and The Merry Five, consisting of Molly, Kirke and Weezy Rowe, and their twin comrades, Paul and Pauline Bradstreet, continue their excursions and adventures amid the novel scenes and strange surroundings of their new home. They go to the beaches, learn to swim, camp out, visit the bee ranch and the mine, everywhere getting new experiences. Published by Lee & Shepard, Boston.

TO HAVE HEALTH AND HAPPINESS
Use "Garland" Stoves and Ranges.

A PICTURE COSTUME

Pale Green, With Dahlia Flowers, Set Off by Garnet Jewelry and a Picture Hat.

If her Grace, the Countess of Essex, says that long-promised visit to America this fall she will bring with her one suit recently purchased from a firm in London that is making a specialty of "picture costumes."

This dress, just from their hands, if exquisite in tones of green. It is a reception dress and is to be worn on all evening occasions.

The material is ottoman silk, slightly figured. The ground-work is green ottoman with heavy cord. Tiny dahlia flowers are traced upon it. The waist, which has bouf-

HER LADYSHIP'S PICTURE GOWN.

fant sleeves, is pointed in front and trimmed with a fichu of lace. This is caught in front and at the shoulders with buttons of garnet.

Garnets are the jewels worn entirely with this picture dress, and around the neck are four strings of garnets. The belt is a band of satin, with garnets set in it.

The hat, a picture hat, is trimmed with bands of white velvet lined with dahlia, with pale green plumes, setting up in front. Black gloves set off this dress well, and for the last touch of grace there is a heavy ruching of white velvet around the foot.

Driven to Desperation.

"I read of a man last spring who was hypnotised and buried for several days."

"I don't doubt it. Some men will do almost anything to get out of house-cleaning."—Truth.

Thos. Slater has a message for every man on page 8. Don't fail to read it.

The Fountain of Youth.

We all remember the story of Ponce de Leon seeking the fountain of eternal youth; and we all sympathize with him in his search. Youth means so much. It means more than life—for sometimes life becomes a weariness. But youth—with its abounding health and vigor, elastic step, glowing cheeks, and sparkling eyes—we all covet genuine youth.

The weakness or disease which ages people before their time, is not the result of accumulated years; it is the effect of wrong living and unhealthy blood. When the blood is pure and fresh the body will be full of youth.

Thousands of people who seemed to have lost their youth by disease and suffering have found it again through the use of Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery, the most perfectly natural and scientific rejuvenator of the physical forces ever known to medical science.

It gives the blood-making organs power to make new blood, full of the life-giving red corpuscles which drive out disease, build up fresh tissue, solid muscular flesh and healthy nerve force. It gives constitutional power, deep and full and strong; rounds out hollow cheeks and emaciated forms; gives plumpness, color and animation.

It does not make flabby fat like cod liver oil. On this account, it is a perfect tonic for corpulent people.

It aids digestion and the natural action of the liver, and by feeding the nerves with highly vitalized blood banishes nervousness, neuralgia and insomnia.

Where a constipated condition exists, the "Discovery" should be used in conjunction with Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets, which are the most perfect, mild and natural laxative in the world. There is nothing else "just as good." There is nothing that will do the work so thoroughly, surely and comfortably.

Recent Literature.

Readers desiring any further information whatever about these volumes will please address the publishers, whose address is given in every case, and not inquire of The Blade. We do not deal in books.

In Tales of Languedoc, the author, Samuel Jacques Brun, has given us an exquisite volume of fairy tales which contributes much that is new, valuable and entertaining to literature. Interest in the study of folk-lore is growing to the extent that no man can consider himself versed without intelligent knowledge of this fascinating branch of belle lettres. The provinces of Southern France are a rich field of remits. Brun is every case, and not because they are repertent folk-lore, and these tales of Languedoc are written by one born and reared in the midst of them; hence, every touch of the simple, homely life of the peasantry is a true one. The tales are sweet, wholesome, and attractive as fairy creations, were they purely imaginative, but when we consider that they preserve for us an actual and distinctive element in peasant life in this most delightsome nook of sunny France, they become the valuable of a faithful and reliable work like this one by Professor Brun student, general reader, and conversationalist, becomes emphatically manifest. The illustrations are of Ernest Peixotto's best work, and Peixotto is an artist who, confessedly, takes rank with Pennell and Vierge. He has studied scene and character in Languedoc, and his designs are finely sympathetic with the text. The introduction, by Harriet W. Preston, whose translations of Mistral's writings have made them dear to English readers, is fitting prelude to the entertainment that follows. Published by William Doxey, 631 Market street San Francisco.

Signor Luigi Arditi is to-day perhaps the best known conductor or impressario of Italian opera. He has frequently visited this country and is well acquainted with the leading cities of America, so that his Memoirs should meet with a friendly reception. Perhaps the best idea of this interesting volume may be gathered from the following headings noted among the contents: Alboni—Henriette Sontag—Grisi—Mario—Viardot—"How I Composed 'Il Bacio'"—Piccolomini—Patti; Her Childhood—"I Hear Her Sing for the First Time"—Her Debut at Covent Garden—Mapleson becomes Impressario—Verdi—We Go to Paris—I Meet Rossini—Meyerbeer and "Faust"—Ferdinand Hiller—Gounod is Present—"Nozze di Figaro"—Friendship with Garibaldi—Production of Nicolai's "Merry Wives of Windsor"—The Grist-Mario Testimonial—Death of Nellson—Debut of Emma Thursby—Death of Gye—Gye's Pluck—Lillie Lehmann, etc.

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Talmage's Sermon.

THE DYING CENTURY,

"Thus Saith the Lord: Set Thy House in Order.

Washington, Nov. 30.—Considering the time and place of its delivery, this sermon of Dr. Talmage is of absorbing and startling interest. It is not only national, but international in its significance. His subject was "The Dying Century," and the text II. Kings xx:1: "Thus saith the Lord: Set thine house in order; for thou shalt die, and not live."

No alarm bell do I ring in the utterance of this text, for in the healthy glow of your countenances I find cause only for cheerful prophecy; but I shall apply the text as spoken in the ear of Hezekiah, down with a bad carbuncle, to the nineteenth century, now closing. It will take only four more long breaths, each year a breath, and the century will expire. My theme is "The Dying Century." I discuss it at an hour when our national legislature is about to assemble, some of the members now here present, and others soon to arrive from the North, South, East, and West. All the public conveyances coming this way will bring important additions of public men, so that when on Dec. 7, at high noon, the gavels of Senate and House of Representatives shall lift and fall, the destinies of this nation, and through it the destinies of all nations struggling to be free will be put on solemn and tremendous trial. Amid such intensifying circumstances I stand by the venerable century, and address it in the words of my text: "Thus saith the Lord: Set thine house in order; for thou shalt die, and not live."

Eternity is too big a subject for us to understand. Some one has said it is a great clock, that says "Tick" in one century, and "Tack" in another. But we can better understand Old Time, who has many children, and they are the centuries, and many grandchildren, and they are the years. With the dying nineteenth century we shall this morning have a plain talk, telling him some of the good things he ought to adjust before he quits this sphere and passes out to join the eternities.

We generally wait until people are dead before we say much in praise of them. Funeral eulogium is generally very pathetic and eloquent with things that ought to have been said years before. We put on cold tombstones what we ought to have put in the warm ears of the living. We curse Charles Sumner while he is living, and cudgel him into spinal meningitis, and wait until, in the arms where he has been living the last year, he puts his hand on his heart and cries "Oh," and is gone, and then we make a long procession in his honor. Dr. Sunderland, chaplain of the American Senate, accompanying; stopping long enough to allow the dead senator to lie in state in Independence Hall, Philadelphia, and halting at Boston state house, where not long before damnatory resolutions had been passed in regard to him, and then move on, amid the tolling bells and the boom of minute guns, until we bury him in Mount Auburn and cover him with flowers five feet deep. What a pity he could not have been awake at his own funeral, to hear the gratitude of the nation! What a pity that one green leaf could not have been taken from each one of the mortuary garlands and put upon his table while he was yet alive at the Arlington! What a pity that one of the great choirs who chanted at his obsequies, one of them a girl, dressed in white, might not have sung to his living ear a complimentary solo! The post-mortem expression contradicted the ante-mortem.

The nation could not have spoken the truth both times about Charles Sumner. Was it before or after his decease it lied? No such injustice shall be inflicted upon this venerable nineteenth century. Before he goes we recite in his hearing some of the good things he has accomplished. What an addition to the world's intelligence he has made! Look at the old schoolhouse with the snow sifting through the roof and the filthy tin cup hanging over the water-pail in the corner, and the little victims on the long benches without backs, and the illiterate schoo'master with his hickory gad, and then look at our modern palaces of free schools, under men and women cultured and refined to the highest excellence, so that, whereas in our childhood we had to be whipped to go to school, children now cry when they cannot go. Thank you, venerable century, while at the same time we thank God. What an addition to the world's inventions!

Within our century the cotton gin. The agricultural machines, for planting, reaping and threshing. The telegraph. The phonograph, capable of preserving a human voice from generation to generation. The typewriter, that rescues the world from worse and worse penmanship. And stenography, capturing from the lips of the swiftest speaker more than 200 words a minute. Never was I so amazed at the facilities of our time as when, a few days ago, I telegraphed from Washington to New York a long, and elaborate manuscript, and a few minutes after, to show its accuracy, it was read to me through the long distance telephone, and it was exact, down to the last semicolon and comma. What hath God wrought! Oh, I am so glad that I was not born sooner. For the tallow candle the electric light. For the writhings of the surgeon's table God-given anesthetics, and the whole physical organism explored by sharpest instrument, and giving not so much pain as the taking of a splinter from under a child's finger nail. From the lumbering stage coach the limited express train.

And there is the spectroscope of Fraunhofer, by which our modern scientist feels the pulse of other worlds throbbing with light. Jenner's arrest by inoculation of one of the world's worst plagues. Dr. Keeley's emancipation for inebriety. Intimation that the virus of maddened canine, and cancer, and consumption are yet to be balked by magnificent medical treatment. The eyesight of the doctor sharpened till he can look through thick flesh and find the hiding place of the bullet. What advancement in geology, and the catechism of the mountains; chemistry, or the catechism of the elements; astronomy, or the catechism of the stars; electrology, or the catechism of the lightnings. What advancement in music. At the beginning of this century, confining itself, so far as the great masses of the people were concerned, to a few airs drawn out on accordion or massacred on church bass viol; now enchantingly dropping from thousands of fingers in Handel's Concerto in B flat, or Guilmant's Sonata in D minor.

Thanks to you, O Century! before you die, for the asylums of mercy that you have founded—the blind seeing with their fingers, the deaf hearing by the motion of the lips, the born imbecile by skilled object lesson lifted to tolerable intelligence. Thanks to this century for the improved condition of most nations. The reason that Napoleon made such a successful sweep across Europe at the beginning of the century was that most of the thrones of Europe were occupied by imbeciles or profligates. But most of the thrones of Europe are to-day occupied by kings and queens competent. France, a republic. Switzerland, a republic, and about fifty free constitutions, I am told, in Europe. Twenty million serfs of Russian manumitted. On this Western continent I can call the roll of many republics—Mexico, Guatemala, San Salvador, Costa Rica, Paraguay, Uruguay, Honduras, New Granada, Venezuela, Peru, Ecuador, Bolivia, Chile, Argentine Republic, Brazil. The once straggling village of Washington, to which the United States government moved, its entire baggage and equipment packed up in seven boxes, which got lost in the woods near this place, now the architectural glory of the continent, and admiration of the world.

The money power, so much denounced and often justly criticised, has covered this continent with universities, and free libraries, and asylums of mercy. The newspaper press, which at the beginning of the century was an inkroller, by the hand moved over one sheet of paper at a time, has become the miraculous manufacturer of four or five or six hundred thousand sheets for one daily paper's issue. Within your memory, O dying century! has been the the genesis of nearly all the great institutions evangelistic. At London Tavern, March 7, 1802, British and Foreign Bible Society was born. In 1816 American Bible Society was born. In 1824 American Sunday School Union was born. In 1810 American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, which has put its saving hand on every nation of the round earth, was born at a haystack in Massachusetts. The National Temperance Society, the Woman's Temperance Society, and all the other temperance movements born in this century. Africa, hidden for other centuries, by exploration in this century has been put at the feet of civilization to be occupied by commerce and Christianity.

The Chinese wall, once an impassable barrier, now is a useless pile of stone and brick. Our American nation at the opening of this century only a slice of land along the Atlantic coast, now the whole continent in possession of our schools and churches and missionary stations. Sermons and religious intelligence which in other times, if noticed at all by the newspaper press, were allowed only a paragraph of three or four lines, now find the columns of the secular press in all the cities thrown wide open, and every week for twenty-six years, without the omission of a single week, I have been permitted to preach one entire gospel sermon through the newspaper press.

I thank God for this great opportunity. Glorious old century! You shall not be entombed until we have, face to face, extolled you. You were rocked in a rough cradle, and the inheritance you received was for the most part poverty and struggle, and hardship, and poorly covered graves of heroes and heroines of whom the world had not been worthy, and atheism, and military despotism, and the wreck of the French revolution. You inherited the influences that resulted in Aaron Burr's treason and another war with England, the battle of Lake Erie, and Indian savagery, and Lundy's lane, and Dartmoor massacre and dissension, bitter and wild beyond measurement, and African slavery, which was yet to cost a national hemorrhage of four awful years and a million precious lives. Yes, dear old century, you had an awful start, and you have done more than well, considering your parentage and your early environment. It is a wonder you did not turn out to be the vagabond century of all time. You had a bad mother and a bad grandmother.

Some of the preceding centuries were not fit to live in—their morals were so bad, their fashions were so outrageous, their ignorance was so dense, their inhumanity so terrific. O dying nineteenth century! before you go we take this opportunity of telling you that you are the best and the mightiest of all the centuries of the Christian era, except the first, which gave us the Christ, and you rival that century in the fact, that you, more than all the other centuries put together, are giving the Christ to all the world. One hundred and twelve thousand dollars at one meeting a few days ago contributed for the world's evangelization.

Look at what you have done, O whom abused and depreciated century! All the Pacific isles barred and bolted against the gospel when you began to reign, now all open, and some of them more christianized than America. No more, as once written over the church doors in Cape Colony, "Dogs and Hottentots not admitted." The late Mr. Darwin contributing twenty-five dollars to the Southern Missionary Society, Cannibalism driven off the face of the earth. The gates of all nations wide open for the gospel entrance when the church shall give up its intellectual dandyism, and quit fooling with higher criticism, and plunge into the work, as at a life-saving station the crew pull off a ship going to pieces in the Skerries. I thank you, old and dying century; all heaven thanks you, and surely all the nations of the earth ought to thank you. I put before your eyes, soon to be dim for the last sleep, the facts tremendous. I take your wrinkled old hand and shake it in congratulation, I bathe your fevered brow and freshen your parched lips from the fountains of eternal victory.

But my text suggests that there are some things that this century ought to do before he leaves us. "Thus saith the Lord, set thine house in order; for thou shalt die, and not live." We ought not to let this century go before two or three things are set in order. For one thing, this quarrel between labor and capital. The nineteenth century inherited it from the eighteenth century, but do not let this nineteenth century bequeathe it to the twentieth. "What we want," says labor, "to set us right is more strikes and more vigorous work with torch and dynamite." "What we want," says capital, "is a tighter grip on the working classes and compulsion to take what wages we choose to pay, without reference to their needs." Both wrong as sin. Both defiant. Until the day of judgment no settlement of the quarrel, if you leave it to British, Russian, or American politics.

The religion of Jesus Christ ought to come in within the next four years and take the hand of capital and employe and say: "You have tried everything else, and failed; now try the gospel of kindness." No more oppression and no more strikes. The gospel of Jesus Christ will sweeten this acerbity, or it will go on to the end of time, and the fires that burn the world up will crackle in the ears of wrathful prosperity and indignant toil while their hands are still clutching at each other's throats. Before this century sighs its last breath I would that swarthy labor and easy opulence would come up and let the carpenter of Nazareth join their hands in pledge of everlasting kindness and peace. When men and women are dying they are apt to divide among their children momentos, and one is given a watch, and another a vase, and another a picture, and another a robe. Let this veteran century, before it dies, hand over to the human race, with an impressiveness that shall last forever, that old family keepsake which nearly nineteen hundred years ago was handed down from the black rock of the Mount of Beatitudes: "Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them; for this is the law and the prophets."

Another thing that needs to be set in order before the veteran century quits us is a more thorough and all-embracing plan for the world's gardenization. We have been trying to save the world from the top, and it cannot be done that way. It has got to be saved from the bottom. The church ought to be only a West Point to drill soldiers for outside battle. What if a military academy should keep its students from age to age in the messroom and the barracks? No, no! They are wanted at Montezuma, and Chapultepec, and South Mountain, and Missionary Ridge, and the church is no place for a Christian to stay very long. He is wanted at the front. He is needed in the desperate charge of taking the parapets. The last great battle for God is not to be fought on the campus of a college or the lawn of a church. It is to be fought at Missionary Ridge. Before this century quits us let us establish the habit of giving the forenoon of the Sabbath to the churches and the afternoon and evening of the Sabbath to gospel work in the halls, and theatres, and streets, and fields, and slums, and wilderneses of sin and sorrow. Why do Christians who have stuffed themselves with "The strong meat of the Word" and gospel viands on Sabbath forenoons want to come up to a second service and stuff themselves again? These old gormandizers at the gospel feast need to get into outdoor work with the outdoor gospel that was preached on the banks of the Jordan, and on the fishing smacks of Lake Galilee, and in the bleak air of Assyrian mountains.

I am told that throughout all our American cities the second Sabbath service in the majority of the churches is sparsely, yea, disgracefully attended, and is the dress of the consecrated and eloquent pastors who bring their learning and piety before pews ghastly for their inoccupancy. What is the providential meaning? The greatest of all evangelists since Bible times recently suggested that the evening services in all the churches be turned into the most popular style of evangelistic meetings for outsiders. Surely that is an experiment worth making. If that does not succeed, then it does seem to me all the churches which cannot secure sufficient evening audiences ought to shut up their buildings at night and go where the people are and invite them to come to the gospel banquet.

Let the Christian souls, bountifully fed in the morning, go forth in the afternoon and evening to feed the multitudes of outsiders starving for the bread of which if a man eat he shall never again hunger. Among those clear down the gospel would make more rapid conquest than among those who know so much and have so much that God cannot teach or help them. In those lower depths splendid fellows in the rough, like the shoe-black, that a reporter saw near New York City Hall. He asked a boy to black his boots. The boy came up to his work provokingly slow, and had just begun when a large boy shoved him aside and began the work, and the reporter removed him as being a bully, and the boy replied: "Oh, that's all right. I am going to do it for 'im. You see he's been sick in the hospital more'n a month; so us boys turn in and give 'im a lift." Do all the boys help him?" asked the reporter. "Yes, sir; when they ain't got no job themselves, and Jim gets one, they turn in and help 'im, for he ain't strong yet, you see." "How much percentage does he give you?" said the reporter. The boy replied: "I don't keep none of it. I ain't no such sneak as that. All the boys give up what they git on his job. I'd like to catch any feller sneaking on a sick boy, I would."

The reporter gave him a twenty-five-cent piece, and said, "You keep ten cents for yourself, and give the rest to Jim." "Can't do it, sir; it's his customer. Here, Jim." Such big souls as that strew all the lower depths of the cities, and get them converted to God, this would be the last full century of the world's sin, and the little work of evangelization would be left for the next century. Before this century expires let there be a combined effort to save the great cities of America and Great Britain, and of all Christendom. What an awful thing it would be for you, O, dying century! to bequeath to the coming century, as yet innocent and unscarred with a single sin or burdened with a single sorrow, the blasphemy, the lawlessness, the atheism, the profligacy, and the woes of great cities, still unevangelized. What ought we to see, O, dying century! is a revival of religion that would wrap the confluents in conflagrations of religious awakening, and that would make legislation, and merchandise, and all styles of worldly business wait awhile at the telegraph offices and the telephone offices because they are occupied with telling the story of cities and nations born in a day. Nearly all the centuries closed with something tremendous. Why may not this century close in the salvation of millions? I do not know whether our theological friends, who have studied the subject more than I have, are right or wrong when they say Christ will come in person, and set up his kingdom in this world; but though he would be overwhelmed with our unworthiness, I would like to see Christ descend from heaven in one of the clouds of this morning, and planting his feet on this earth, which he came centuries ago to save, declare his reign of love, and mercy, and salvation on earth begun. And what more appropriate place could he select eventually for such a divine landing than the capital of a continent never cursed by the tyrannies and superstitions of the old world?

What has this dying nineteenth century to tell us before he goes? We all love to hear septuagenarians, octogenarians, nonagenarians, and centenarians talk. We gather around the arm-chair and listen till it is far into the night, and never weary of hearing their experiences. But Lord Lyndhurst, at eighty-eight years of age, pouring into the ears of the House of Lords, in a four-hours' address, the experiences of a lifetime, and Apollonius, at one hundred years of age, recounting his travels to thrilled listeners, and Charles Macklin, at one hundred and seven years of age, absorbing the attention of his hearers, and Ralph Farnham, of our country, at one hundred and seven years, telling the Prince of Wales the story of Bunker Hill, can create no such interest as this dying centenarian, if he will only speak.

Tell us, O nineteenth century! before you go, in a score of sentences, some of the things you have heard and seen. The veteran turns upon us and says: I saw Thomas Jefferson riding in unattended from Monticello, only a few steps from where you stand, dismount from his horse and hitch the bridle to a post, and on yonder hill take the oath of the Presidential office. I saw yonder Capitol ablaze with war's incendiarism. I saw the puff of the first engine in America. I heard the thunder of Waterloo, of Sebastopol, and Sedan, and Gettysburg. I was present at the coronations of queens, kings and queens and emperors and empresses now in the world's palaces. I have seen two billows roll across this continent and from ocean to ocean; a billow of treason and joy in 1857, and a billow of blood in 1861. I have seen four generations of the human race march across this world and disappear. I saw their cradles rocked and their graves dug. I have heard the wedding bells and the death knells of near a hundred years. I have clapped my hands for millions of joys and wrung them in millions of agonies. I saw Macready and Edwin Forrest act, and Edwin Payson pray. I heard the first chime of Longfellow's rythms, and before any one else saw them I read the first line of Bancroft's history, and the first verse of Bryant's Thanatopsis, and the first word of Victor Hugo's almost supernatural romance. I heard the music of all the grand marches and the lament of all the requiems that for nigh ten decades made the cathedral windows shake.

"I have seen more moral and spiritual victories than all of my predecessors put together. For all you who hear or read this valedictory I have kindled all the domestic firesides by which you ever sat, and roused all the halloos and roundelays and merriments you have ever heard, and unrolled all the pictured sunsets and starry banners of the midnight heavens that you have ever gazed at. But ere I go, take this admonition and benediction of a dying century. The longest life, like mine, must close. Opportunities gone never come back, as I could prove from nigh a hundred years of observation: The eternity that will soon take me will soon take you. The wicked live not out half their days, as I have seen in ten thousand instances.

The only influence for making the world happy is an influence that I, the Nineteenth Century, inherited from the first century of the Christian era—the Christ of all the centuries. Be not deceived by the fact that I have lived so long, for a century is a large wheel that contains a hundred smaller wheels which are the years; and each one of those years turns three hundred and sixty-five smaller wheels, which are the days; and each one of the three hundred and sixty-five days turns twenty-four smaller wheels, which are the hours; and each one of those twenty-four hours turns sixty smaller wheels, which are the minutes; and those sixty minutes turn smaller wheels, which are the seconds. And all of this vast machinery is in perpetual motion, and pushes us on and on toward the great eternity whose doors will, at 12 o'clock of the winter night between the year nineteen hundred, and the year nineteen hundred and one open before me the dying century.

"I quote from the three inscriptions over the three doors of the Cathedral of Milan. Over one door, amid a wreath of sculptured roses, I read: 'All that which pleases us is but for a moment.' Over another door, around a sculptured cross, I read: 'All that which troubles us is but for a moment.' But over the central door I read: 'That only is important which is eternal.' O Eternity! Eternity! Eternity!"

My hearers, as the nineteenth century was born while the face of this nation was yet wet with tears because of the fatal horseback ride that Washington took, out here at Mt. Vernon, through a December snow storm, I wish the next century might be born at a time when the face of this nation shall be wet with tears of the literal or spiritual arrival of the great Deliverer of Nations, of whom St. John wrote with apocalyptic pen: "And I saw, and behold a white horse; and he that sat on him had a bow; and a crown was given unto him; and he went forth conquering, and to conquer."

Queer Weather.

A traevler at a Pennsylvania inn got out of bed one night to see what sort of weather it was, but instead of looking out into the open air, thrust his head through the glass window of a cupboard. "Landlord," he shouted, "what sort of weather do you call this? The night is as dark as Egypt and smells of cheese."—Columbus Dispatch.

He Could.

Benevolent Old Gent (to mother with crying child)—Madam, let me have the little one for a while; I think I can quiet him. Now, my boy, what is it you want?

The Kid—I onts to pull your whiskera.

Couldn't Discover It.

Philadelphian—And how do you find life in Philadelphia?

New Yorker—That's just the trouble; I do not find any.—New York World.

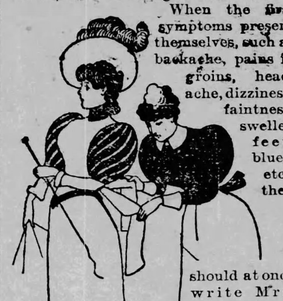
It Was a Success.

"Wasn't her marriage a failure?"

"Oh, no. She had no trouble whatever in securing a divorce."—New York Herald.

GIRLS IN STORES,

offices, or factories, are peculiarly liable to female diseases, especially those who are constantly on their feet. Often they are unable to perform their duties, their suffering is so intense.



When the first symptoms present themselves, such as backache, pains in groins, headache, dizziness, faintness, swelled feet, blues, etc., they should at once write Mrs. Pinkham, at Lynn, Mass., stating symptoms; she will tell them exactly what to do, and in the meantime they will find prompt relief in Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, which can be obtained from any druggist.

"MY DEAR MRS. PINKHAM:—I am so grateful to you for what your Compound has done for me. For four years I suffered such pains from ovarian trouble, which caused dreadful weakness of the limbs, tenderness and burning pain in the groins, pain when standing or walking, and increased pain during menstruation, headache and leucorrhœa. I weighed only 92 pounds, and was advised to use your Vegetable Compound, which I did. I felt the benefit before I had taken all of one bottle. I continued using it, and it has entirely cured me. I have not been troubled with leucorrhœa for months, and now I weigh 115 pounds." —LILLIE HARTSON, Flushing, Genesee Co., Michigan. Box 65.

OUR FLAGS.

HISTORY OF THE DIFFERENT STANDARDS OF THE REVOLUTION.

Stars and Stripes the Oldest Emblem in Existence—Originally Had Thirteen Stripes.

It is a fact not generally known that the stars and stripes is the oldest national emblem now in existence, and that the national flags of all other countries bear more recent dates of official adoption, says a writer in Harper's Round Table.

There has been a great deal of discussion concerning the origin of our flag. Although the thirteen stripes were in

use before and during the early part of the revolution, the first and only legislative action for the establishment of a national flag was in the shape of the following resolution, which was passed Saturday, June 14, 1777:

"Resolved, That the flag of the thirteen United States be thirteen stripes, alternate red and white; that the union be thirteen stars, white in a blue field, representing a new constellation."

No record of the discussion that preceded the adoption of this flag has been kept, and although there have been many theories as to the origin of the device, none of them has been entirely satisfactory.

In the early years of the Revolution a number of emblems were in use, which became famous. The standard on the southeast bastion of Fort Sullivan (or

PINE TREE FLAG.

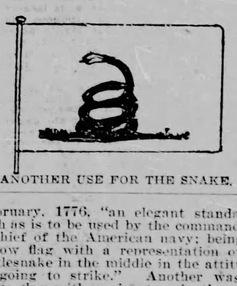
Moultrie, as it was afterward named) on June 28, 1776, by Colonel Moultrie was a blue flag with a white cres ent in the upper left-hand corner and the word "Liberty" in white letters emblazoned upon it. This was the flag that fell outside the fort and was secured by Sergeant Jasper, who leaped the parapet, walked the whole length of the fort, seized the flag, fastened it to a spongestaff and in sight of the whole British fleet, and in the midst of a perfect hail of bullets planted it firmly upon the bastion. The next day Governor Rutledge visited the fort and rewarded Jasper by giving him his own sword. He offered him also a lieutenant's commission; but Jasper, who could neither read nor write, modestly declined it.

The pine-tree flag, which was a favorite device with the officers of American privateers, had a white field with a green pine tree in the middle and the motto, "An Appeal to Heaven." This

flag was officially indorsed by the Massachusetts council, which in April, 1776, passed a series of resolutions providing for the regulation of the sea service, among which was the following:

Resolved, That the uniform of the officers be green and white, and that they furnish themselves accordingly, and that the colors be a white flag, with a green pine tree and the inscription, "An Appeal to Heaven."

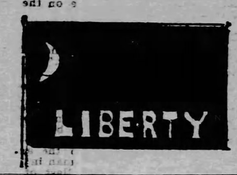
The device of a rattlesnake was popular among the colonists, and its origin as an American emblem is a curious feature in our national history. It has been stated that its use grew out of a humorous suggestion made by a writer in Franklin's paper, the Pennsylvania Gazette—that, in return for the wrongs which England was forcing upon the colonists, a cargo of rattlesnakes should be sent to the mother country, and "distributed in St. James' Park, Spring Garden and other places of pleasure." Col. Gadsden, one of the marine committee presented to Congress, on the 8th of



ANOTHER USE FOR THE SNAKE.

February, 1776, "an elegant standard, such as is to be used by the commander-in-chief of the American navy; being a yellow flag with a representation of a rattlesnake in the middle in the attitude of going to strike." Another was a white flag with a pine tree in the center under which was a snake. Above was "An Appeal to God" and below "Don't Tread on Me!" The Culpeper minute men adopted a similar device with the name of their company and the motto "Liberty or Death." Another use of the rattlesnake was upon a ground of thirteen horizontal alternate red and white stripes, the snake extending diagonally across the stripes, and the lower white stripe bearing the motto "Don't Tread on Me." The snake was always represented as having thirteen rattles—and the number thirteen seems constantly to have been kept in mind; thus, thirteen vessels are ordered to be built; thirteen stripes are placed upon the flag; in one design thirteen arrows are grasped in a mailed hand, and in a later one thirteen arrows are in the talons of an eagle.

The red stripes seemed for a time to



be used as often on a blue ground as on a white. A water color drawing found among the papers of Major General Philip Schuyler represents the Royal Savage, one of the little fleet on Lake Champlain in the summer and winter of 1776, commanded by Benedict Arnold, as flying a flag which Bancroft, in his "History of the United States, describes as "the tricolored American banner not yet spangled with stars, but showing thirteen stripes, alternate red and white, in the field, and the united crosses on St. George and St. Andrew on a blue ground in the corner."

One of the most interesting flags of the revolution is the banner or flag of Count Pulaski, presented to him by the Moravian Sisters of Bethlehem, Pa. Count Pulaski, a Polish volunteer, who had been appointed a brigadier in the continental army just after the battle of Brandywine and placed in command of the cavalry, had resigned his commission, and had received the consent of Congress to raise and command an independent corps of 68 horse and 200 foot which was chiefly raised and fully organized in Baltimore in 1778. He visited Lafayette while wounded, and was taken care of by the Moravian Sisters, who gave him a crimson silk banner with designs beautifully wrought with the needle by their own hands. Pulaski bore this flag through many a battle, until he fell at Savannah in 1779. It is now in the possession of the Maryland Historical Society.

The flag of Washington's Lifeguard, which is preserved in the museum of Alexandria, Va., is of white silk, on which the device is neatly painted. One of the guard is holding a horse, and in the act of receiving a flag from the Genius of Liberty, represented as a woman leaning on the union shield, near which is an American eagle. The motto of the corps "Conquer or Die," is on a ribbon over the device. The flag flown by our victorious frigates during the war of 1812 bore fifteen stripes and fifteen stars. Afterward it was settled that the number of stripes should be the original thirteen; and now the field bears 45 stars, to which others will be added as new states are admitted.

STORY OF M'KINLEY.

How He Evened Up With a Newspaper Reporter.

It is reported of Major McKinley that during one of his political campaigns he was followed about from place to place by a reporter for a paper of the opposition polities—one of those shrewd, persistent fellows who are always at work, quick to see an opportunity, and skilled in making the most of it. McKinley, while he was annoyed by the misrepresentation to which he was almost daily subjected, could not help admiring the skill with which he was assailed. His admiration, however, was mingled with compassion, for the reporter was ill, poorly clad, and had an annoying cough. One night McKinley took a close carriage for a near-by town, where he was going to speak. It was near the end of the campaign, and the night was cold. He had not gone far when he heard that cough, and knew that the reporter was riding with the driver in the exposed seat. The major called to the driver to stop, and alighted.

"Get down off that seat, young man!" he said.

The reporter obeyed, thinking the time for the major's vengeance had come.

"Here," said McKinley, taking off his overcoat, "you put on this overcoat and get into that carriage.

"But, Major McKinley," said the reporter, "I guess you don't know who I am. I have been with you the whole campaign, giving it to you every time you spoke, and I am going over to-night to rip you to pieces if I can."

"I know it," said McKinley, "but you put on this coat and get inside, and get warm, so you can do a good job."

The reporter obeyed, and McKinley shut the door and climbed up beside the driver.—Columbus Dispatch.

More Curative Power

Is contained in a bottle of Hoods Sarsaparilla than in any other similar preparation. It costs the proprietor and manufacturer more. It costs the jobber more and it is worth more to the consumer. It has a record of cures unknown to any other preparation. It is the best to buy because it is the One True Blood Purifier.

HOOD'S PILLS are the best family cathartic and liver medicine. Gentle, reliable, sure.

CURRENT FUN.

"Ma," asked the little girl, "are nice things wicked because they are nice, or are they nice because they are wicked?"—Cincinnati Enquirer.

"There is something strange about these seismic disturbances," said the thoughtful man; "the earth yawns, you know, when it is most active."—Boston Transcript.

Algy—I don't want you to wash my face, Grandma—Why, I've washed my face three times a day ever since I was a little girl.

Algy—Yes, and just see how it's shrunk it!—New York Journal.

Police Magistrate—It is a long time since I saw you here last. You have evidently tried to be good.

Burglar—Oh, Mr. Judge, I have been very ill.—Fliegende Blaetter.

"Mamma, I saw a dog to-day that had only three legs."

"Weren't you awfully sorry for him?"

"No'm; he had one more leg than I had."—London Tit-Bits.

"I've promised to go in to supper with some one else, Mr. Blanque; but I'll introduce you to a very handsome and clever girl."

"But I don't want a handsome and clever girl; I want you."—New York Truth.

Singleton—Don't you think that children profit by the example of their parents?

Benedict—Oh I don't know. My son and daughter both want to get married.—New York Evening Journal.

Deacon Black—How did you like it down at Bloomtown?

Rev. White—I tell you, they're wide awake down there!

"Oh, then you didn't preach for them?"—Yonkers Statesman.

Customer (trying on his new pantaloons)—Great snakes! These things seem to be a bifurcated skirt. I'll look like a guy if I wear these.

Conscientious Tailor—Can't help it, sir. If fashion says men look like guys, they'll have to look like guys if they deal with me.—New York Weekly.

Then There Was Coldness.

Marie—Just think of the nerve of the fellow to propose to me.

Mertie—Nerve? Why, it was absolute recklessness.—Truth.

PEOPLE YOU SHOULD KNOW.

Prince Ranjitsinhji denies that he wants to enter parliament.

General Crespo, of Venezuela, has given instructions to have his race horses trained according to American methods.

Keir Hardie has announced his intention to stand for East Bradford, and hopes for a "brilliant victory for socialism."

Ex-Senator J. H. Reagan, who is lying ill at his home in Palestine, Tex., is now in his 79th year. His illness was brought on by exposure and overwork during the campaign.

President D. G. Brinton, of the University of Pennsylvania, is delivering the Lowell course of lectures in Boston. He has taken for his subject "The Religions of Primitive Peoples."

Professor Haddon, of Dublin, still believes the old story that Parnell is yet alive and is on some Western ranch in this country. He has therefore refused to write the life of the Irish statesman.

Mrs. Temple, the new archbishop's wife, had a novel experience the other evening. After leaving the house of a friend, she hailed a cab and, forgetting that the driver was not her own coachman, asked to be driven to the "palace." The man, never dreaming who was the occupant of his cab, promptly drove her to the Palace theatre of varieties, and it was with great difficulty that the good lady, who certainly had never been in such a place of amusement in her life, was able to persuade him that this was not the destination which she wished.

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The Sunday School.

Cautions Against Intemperance.

LESSON XI.—DECEMBER 13, 1896.

Golden Text: For the drunkard and the glutton shall come to poverty.—Prov. 23: 21.

15. My son, if thine heart be wise, my heart shall rejoice, even mine.
16. Yea, my reins shall rejoice, when thy lips speak right things.
17. Let not thine heart envy sinners: but be thou in the fear of the Lord all the day long.
18. For surely there is an end; and thine expectation shall not be cut off.
19. Hear thou, my son, and be wise, and guide thine heart in the way.
20. Be not among winebibbers; among riotous eaters of flesh:
21. For the drunkard and the glutton shall come to poevrty: and drowsiness shall clothe a man with rags.
22. Hearken unto thy father that begat thee, and despise not thy mother when she is old.
23. Buy the truth and sell it not; also wisdom, and instruction, and understanding.
24. The father of the righteous shall greatly rejoice: and he that begetteth a wise child shall have joy of him.
25. Thy father and thy mother shall be glad, and she that bare thee shall rejoice.

Illustrative Applications.

My son, if thine heart be wise, my heart shall be glad, even mine (v. 15.) It is a good thing for any father to let a child know that his future holds in it the gladened hearts of his parents if he do well and worthily, to let the child know that, as a ship carries a cargo, so he is freighted with his parents' loving hopes. Such assurance of real and tremulous personal interest in a child's success is a vast deal better than a more distant and colder advice, and a hard laying down of rules and restrictions. And a boy going out into school or life certain that he is carrying such precious investment—how, if he be any sort of a boy at all, will such knowledge keep him from letting such freightage come to wreck? There is nothing so good for either parent or child as an evident and expressed personal interest each in each. It ought not to be felt, simply, it ought to be said. When a boy has come to years accountable, and must begin to himself take the helm of himself, the true relation between him and his father is that of a beautiful familiarity and companionship. I knew of a father who felt it all, but would not much say it—left his boy to in a sort, guess at it; who would not be companion with his boy, and let the boy know how glad he was when he did well, but would almost always maintain the attitude of a king of judge and commander, instead of older and loving friend. The result was, the boy was always afraid in the father's presence, and even into his manhood carried toward his father a kind of fear. The father bereaved himself of much, and the son was bereaved much as well. Tell your boy how he can make your heart glad, and let him know that he has made it joyful when he has tried to act out of a wise heart.

Let not thine heart envy sinners (v. 17.) This was what a young business man said once to me, in effect: "I have determined to be, at all hazards, in my business exactly true and straight. Nothing shall swerve me from such a course. But you know that man around the corner, he is in the same sort of business. He, however, is getting on ever so much faster. Yet he is not true and straight. He will not do illegal things, but he will do anything this side the technical prohibition of the law. What troubles me is that I cannot get on as fast doing righteously as he does doing crookedly. Why can I not?" That was letting the heart envy sinners. Is it not a thing uncommon. But this young man did not let his envying go so far as to swerve him. As verse 18 says, "Surely there is a reward," or sequel. Because he would be so scrupulously true, that then young man stands now in a position of confidence and success at which the man to whom he referred may well look longingly. Do not be swerved. There is no truer promise for a man, or better motto for his life, than these words of the great Master, "But seek ye first his kingdom, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you."

But be thou in the fear of the Lord all the day long (v. 17). This fear means loving filial fear—not the fear of terror, but the fear, such as a child should have towards a strong, true father, of not wanting to do anything which would grieve the father's heart. And such noble fear as this is sturdiest defense. Said Polycarp amid the flames of martyrdom: "Eighty and six years have I served him, and he has never done me anything but good; how then can I deny my Lord and Saviour?" That was beautiful and holy fear. And that fear so took the pain out of the flame that it seemed to the splendid hero but as "a cool, sweet wind." But we must perpetually keep behind this defense. Be thou in the fear of the Lord all the day long. We may not be religious only in special spots and at special times. We may not, when we are in Rome, do as the Romans do, if they do wrongly. We may not give some hours to God, and some to the devil. Rather in no hour, round the whole circle of the hours twenty-four, may we allow ourselves in that which would clash with a holy and loving fear of God.

Be not among winebibbers (v. 20). I suppose wine-bibbers is a good designation of moderate drinkers. But the terrible danger is that such will not stay wine-bibbers, but will get swirled into drunkenness. I was riding with a mag once to a religious service, who, as we rode, told me, "I have been a reformed man for three years, but I realize all the time, and tremulously, that, if I should now take but one glass, all my hard standing against the awful habit, and my three years of freedom, would go for nothing. I must stand against that first glass." And what he said was true. But suppose he had never taken a first glass. How much of misery and degradation he had missed, on the long years of his drunkenness, the poverty which had come to him, the comparative failure of his life, splendid as his reform was, and the seizure of him by the terrific appetite before the craving of which, after even three years' struggle, he stood aghast! How much better—never a first glass! Never be among the wine-bibbers, never take a first glass with them, that is the safe rule. That, and only that, is absolute security.—Wyland Hoyt, D. D., in Sunday School Times.

Auntie's Trouble.

Auntie was a Southern mammy who had come North with the family she was born in, for the first time in her life. The sights and peculiarities of the Northern people, so strange to her eyes, caused her a great deal of trouble and confusion, and also provoked much mirth. Now Auntie had seen but little ice in the South, and one very warm day she addresse her young missus: "Lor', chile, I's dot a powerful headdake."

"Why, Auntie, I'll get you some ice," which the young lady did, telling her to put some in a handkerchief around her head, and take a small piece in her mouth.

Auntie started to do as she was directed, but evidently overdid it, for in a short time she burst into the dining room, shouting:

"O, Lor', missee, I's frizzed, I's gwine ter die. O Lor' er massy, gim me some hot water, quick, befo' I's a dead mammy."

"Why, what on earth is the matter, Auntie?"

After a great deal of trouble, the following explanation was given:

"I's done swallow dat piece of ice as youse tole me, an' it stuck in my chest, an' den it began ter freeze all my chest, an' I done feel it er re

TOLEDO BLADE.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1896.

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ROBINSON LOCKE.....Editor.

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We have mailed a proposition by postal card to all subscribers whose time expires in December, making a special rate for renewal for the Weekly Blade for one year at a price that is very remarkable, and should have the attention of every one to whom it is addressed.

The postal card should by this time have reached every person whose time expires in December, and it will create a sensation.

We ask all those who should be entitled to one of these cards, but who does not get it by December 10, to write us immediately, and we will send a duplicate.

The terms proposed in this card will surprise you.

DAMMING NIAGARA.

The Chicago Tribune has at last become impressed with the soundness and the feasibility of the project to dam Niagara in order to maintain the lake levels. The Blade has insisted upon this project time and again for a number of years past, and shown that it will cost less than is now spent in digging the mud out of harbors and the channels thereto. The national government would save millions by adopting the Niagara dam plan.

The Tribune believes that the lake levels are permanently lowered. It says:

> The proper and only permanent course to pursue in this matter is to recognize the fact that the upper lakes are steadily falling because their shores are more and more deforested and there is a less even and regular discharge of water into them. Already the Wisconsin, Michigan and Canadian shores are largely denuded of their timber. The level of the lakes is steadily falling. There are frequently great floods in the spring-time, but these do not suffice, like the regular discharge of water the year round, to keep up the levels.

The Tribune recognizes also that a narrowing of the outlet over Niagara would primarily only affect Lake Erie. Of course a rise in its level would have some effect on the Detroit River; but it would need similar works to restrain the outflow, somewhere between the Sault and Detroit. It says:

> What is needed is to impound the water of the lakes by a dam in the Niagara river below Buffalo, which will throw back the water of Lake Erie four or five feet, and by wing dams above Detroit, which would have a similar result with Lakes Huron and Michigan. Then there would be sufficient depth of water permanently and no danger of interference with navigation.

The great advantage of the adoption of this plan is its permanency. It will obviate the continued dredging in harbors and channels, and will not cost as much. Congress should turn its attention energetically to this problem of the Great Lakes. The Representatives from every congressional district on the lakes, from Duluth to Buffalo, should unite to bring the scheme to the front at once. It should be taken beyond the present stage of abstract discussion and be placed in concrete form in the river and harbor bill.

CORPORATE ABUSES.

Because the Republican party is in favor of a protective tariff, it does not follow that it is not opposed to trusts which seek to advance the prices of articles by combining to destroy competition.

It is the purpose of protection to stimulate domestic production and to cheapen prices through competition, while the trusts seek to destroy this competition through combinations.

During the recent campaign the Popocrats urged that because the Republicans did not believe in free silver and did not endorse the excreme ideas of the Demo-Populo fusion in regard to the government ownership of railroads, telegraphs, etc., but stood boldly by the principles of protection, that party is a friend and defender of trusts.

Such a view is not only narrow, but absolutely untrue.

In the tariff plank of the Republican platform adopted at St. Louis last June the party renews and emphasizes its allegiance to the policy of protection, and the closing sentence of that plank is: "In its reasonable application it is just, fair and impartial, equally opposed to foreign control and domestic monopoly, to sectional discrimination and individual favoritism." Such is the principle of protection as believed in by the Republican party.

The people of the United States, without regard to party, are opposed to trusts, monopolies, combinations or whatever the name, that seek to control production and prices. When a Republican tariff measure is framed it is hoped that its provisions will be such as will make it impossible for capital to combine at the expense of the public.

And right here comes the suggestion that the new law contain a provision that when the domestic production of an article subject to duty is controlled in output or price by a trust or combination, and this is proved in United States court, then the duty on the foreign article shall be suspended until the domestic output is neither restricted nor its price manipulated by such combination.

The people look to the Republican party to right this matter, and that party cannot, neither will it desire to shirk its duty.

The report of the board of visitors to the United States Military Academy, just made public, recommends a change of the law raising the standard for admission, permitting each senator to name a cadet annually, and suggests specific improvements to cost $150,000. The objection to increasing the number of cadets is, that the government can find them no employment, the army not being large enough to need so many officers. The result would be that the expense of giving four years' training to quadruple the number of young men necessary. We can see no good reason for doing this.

President Cleveland thinks the Democratic party may be reorganized, but Mr. Cleveland must admit it is a big job.

THE POPULAR VOTE.

The official votes of many of the states are not yet reported, consequently the official figures of the total popular vote of the United States is not yet obtainable. The returns from all the states, including the official vote in those which have canvassed it, and estimates by state officers for the others, give McKinley 7,050,516, Bryan 6,221,552, Palmer 138,570. The total vote, including all parties, is placed at 12,579,638. According to these figures, which should not vary many thousands from the final official table Mc,Kinley's plurality over Bryan is 820,000. This is the largest plurality ever given a Presidential candidate. Grant's 763,000 in 1872 comes next. Lincoln's plurality of 491,195 in 1860 has the third place, and Cleveland's, of 380,810, in 1892, is fourth. McKinley's majority is also the largest on record.

There was a heavy increase in the total vote, above and beyond that due to the natural increase in the voting population. This phenomenal increase in the vote came from the West. In the East, the totals were not materially increased. The vote in New England was practically the same as in 1892. In New York there was a small increase, and almost all of the states of the middle section of the country and of the South show gains. But it is in the Ohio and Mississippi valleys and in the silver states that we must look for the most remarkable increases. In Ohio, Indiana and Illinois the vote is far ahead of that of 1892. In the last named state, which was regarded as the pivotal one of the Union, the total this year is about 1,100,000, as compared with less than 900,000 four years ago.

The silver states were stirred to their foundations by the issue. Colorado, for instance, in 1892, gave Harrison 28,620, and Weaver, Populist, 53,584. The total vote, including that of the Prohibitionists, was 93,842. This year the Bryan vote is no less than 151,970, far in excess of the whole vote of the state in 1892. McKinley's total and the scattering votes bring the aggregate up to about 175,000. There was no lethargy in Colorado in this campaign. Utah is another enthusiastic silver state. Its population is but little more than one-half that of Rhode Island, but its vote is 20,000 greater. The women voters of these two states are responsible in some measure for the increase, but they cannot be regarded as accounting wholly for it.

McKinley's total vote is about 1,828,000 greater than Harrison's was four years ago. That is a tremendous increase, but the Bryan vote is by no means correspondingly smaller than the combined vote for Cleveland and Weaver. The Nebraska man received about 6,275,000, exclusive of those as yet unreported from Texas, and Cleveland and Weaver together polled 6,597,946. In other words, the McKinley and Palmer increase over Harrison is about two millions, and the Bryan decrease from Cleveland and Weaver is about 300,000. The total Prohibition vote this year is about 80,000, against 262,719 in 1892.

The silver states, and those states which were pivotal in the contest, including Ohio and the states westward, polled practically all their votes. In the Eastern states, there was the usual stay-at-home vote, because the sound money men knew these states were safe, and hence did not inconvenience themselves to get to the polls. In every state wherein the Popocrats thought victory possible, every silver vote was out, and every sound money vote as well. Consequently we had, this year, the full strength of the wild effort to put the nation on a silver basis. No further agitation can increase this vote, because additions would have to come from conversions from the sound money ranks, and any large defection there from is impossible. The silver idea has had its day, as the greenback idea had twenty years ago.

THIRTEEN MONTHS IN 1900.

The present arbitrary division of the months into 30 and 31-day periods, with February but 28, is a bothering arrangement, having no advantage, and is endured simply because it is the established order of things. The suggestion is now made that the year 1900 would be a good starting-point for an improvement. It is proposed that with the new century we start in with a year of thirteen months rather than twelve. The Scientific American has an article favoring the change, in which its effect is thus described:

> If such a division were made the first twelve months would have just twenty-eight days, or four weeks each, and the new month twenty-nine, to make 365, and thirty in leap years. After a few days there would be no need to refer to calendars, as the same day of the week would have the same date through the year. If January 1 were say Monday, every Monday would be the 1st, 8th, 15th and 22d; every Tuesday the 2d, 9th, 16th and 23d, and so throughout the year. The changes of the moon would be on about the same dates through the year, and many calculations, like interest, dates of maturing notes, Easter Sunday and many other important ones would be simplified. Although the present generation would have to figure new dates for birthdays and all legal holidays except New Year's would be on different dates, yet the gain would be more than the loss, as that would be permanent, and the objections trifling.

The argument of utility applies with much force in favor of such a change. There is no sound objection to the plan; but we presume there is so much foolish sentiment against it, that any effort to realize it would be baffled. The conservatism of humanity is so great that we endure all sorts of inconvenience rather than make a radical change in some immemorial custom. The adhesion to our clumsy and antiquated system of weights and measures is a case in point.

Mint Director Preston says the world's production of gold in 1896 will reach at least $220,000,000. This output is unprecedented. It is over twice as large as that of 1886, nearly equal to that of gold and silver combined in that year, and many millions in excess of the entire production of the yellow metal from the discovery of America in 1492 down to 1850, a period of three and a half centuries. Furthermore, the indications all point to a steady increase in the world's production for years in the future. The silverite talk about a "scarcity of gold" is seen to be absurd, in the light of the above figures.

The New York Journal of Commerce, after investigating the matter, reports that since the election 392 mills which had shut down have been re-opened and 299 other industries there has been an increase in the number of hands or in the output of the plants. And yet there are those blind Popocrats who refuse to believe an industrial revival is going on.

The coinage of silver dollars still goes on. More than 16,000,000 of them were coined during the ten months from February 1, to November 1, of the present year. This is twice as many as were coined in all the years of so-called free coinage from 1792 to 1873.

McKinley's lawn is no longer trodden into mud, but the front door bell is showing signs of overwork.

Of course Toledo leads. It was the first city in the country for wheat to touch the dollar mark.

FAMINE IN INDIA.

"War, pestilence and famine" have in all ages been dreaded as the scourges of mankind, and the liturgies of some churches contain a special petition for deliverance therefrom. Famine is the last named, and the most dreaded. Yet it stalks abroad among the teeming millions of the great Indian peninsula, and one-third of the 200,000,000 people are not only threatened with it, but actually dying of starvation. The official statement is that 72,000,000 of the native inhabitants are starving or on the brink of starvation.

Here is a calamity at which the civilized world must stand appalled. The rainy season did not come as usual. Because of too little rainfall, or none at all, the crops failed this year, and there was no harvest for the husbandman. Deprived of their food supply, a population equal to that of the entire United States is in imminent danger of starving to death!

This is the most stupendous in its proportions of any calamity which has befallen the human race within historic times. It goes far beyond the destruction of any war the world ever beheld; beyond the desolation produced by any pestilence which ever attacked the human race. The British government can not cope with this awful disaster. It has to face the greatest emergency of historic times. The horrors of the Sepoy mutiny of 1857 fade into insignificance in the presence of a famine involving one-third of the population of its Indian Empire.

The work of relief is so enormous that it will transcend the powers of the British government. For the feeding of these starving millions must be maintained for ten long months—until a new crop can be planted, grown and harvested. But relief must be given. Tremendous as is the work, humanity demands that it shall be done. The world must show its solidarity; the nations must respond to the call of humanity. All of Christendom already feels the mighty burden laid on it, and is preparing to obey the behest of its Founder, to "feed the hungry." Already Russia is responding to the cry of the starving millions in India, and the United States will not be behind hand. But the demand is immediate and pressing. It is already time to act. Food is wanted, and it must be in the form of grain, for the people of India are vegetarians. From the abundance of our farms must come the food to answer this cry for Christian charity to the millions menaced by famine.

DOLLAR WHEAT.

The price of wheat was still on the up grade last week. On Saturday May wheat touched the dollar mark on the Toledo Produce Exchange for the first time since 1892. At New York the highest price was 91⅝ cents and at Chicago 85⅞ cents. The advance was availed of by many holders to sell in order to realize profits, and the top-notch prices broke somewhat under the brisk selling, the Chicago market closing with a gain of 4½ cents for the week.

Dollar wheat will be reached, without doubt, under present conditions. The quantity of wheat in sight has begun to diminish already, though as a rule it continues to increase until January. This means that the heavy exports have diminished the supply. But there are other strengthening factors in the situation. Portugal, which has a short crop, has suspended the import duty to allow 5,000,000 bushels to come in. Shipments from Argentine are decreasing, and the stories of material damage to the crop are confirmed and added to. There is a demand from Australia for United States wheat, and on Saturday a price of $1.70 per cental for six cargoes of wheat, for shipment there was declined in San Francisco. This is $1.02 per bushel.

In the face of facts like these, dollar wheat at Atlantic export points will be reached in the near future. Those farmers who still have wheat for sale will get the highest price they have received for several years. And those of our great farming population who have listened to the free silver theory that wheat prices were low because silver is low, should note the complete refutation of that theory which the present situation gives. Short crops in other wheat-producing countries has brought the price to the highest level for several years, thus showing that the law of supply and demand fixes prices, and that there is no relation between the price of silver and that of any other product.

AT THE PIE-COUNTER.

A report comes from Washington that will cause a chill to run down the backs of old-time officeholders. It is to the effect that few of them will be appointed to official positions by Major McKinley.

It is one of the peculiar phenomena of our political system that a man who has once tasted the dubious delights of holding office, as a rule has a wild desire to continue. This is phenomenally true of those holding appointive positions under the national government.

In point of fact, the gentlemen who have been once honored by an appointment, find in that fact a positive argument for reappointment. It is safe to say the masses of the people do not agree with them.

There is a strong feeling in the popular mind that the appointments ought to "go round," and that men who have had their slices of pie should step out of the throng now gathering in front of the counter. It is impossible that every man who aspires to appointment should have an office. In these piping times of civil service reform, the number of positions is largely reduced, while the number of applicants is largely increased.

We have no information whatever as to Major McKinley's views—whether he will adopt the policy of recognizing men who have not hitherto held office, preferring them to those who have, or not. But there are good reasons for such a policy. It would be a popular move, for there are plenty of men fully qualified in every respect, among the Republican ranks, to fill every appointive position ten times over, without reinstating those who have had their turn under previous Republican administrations.

FUSION AND A BAD CAUSE.

The New York World publishes some interesting figures on the popular vote for President.

The total vote was about 13,579,638, a gain over 1892 of 1,500,000.

McKinley's gain over Harrison was 1,874,408.

Democrats and Populists polled 376,394 fewer votes in 1896 than they did in 1892.

Four years ago Cleveland's plurality was 380,810. This year McKinley's plurality is about 830,000.

The sound money majority, that is the united vote of McKinley and Palmer, is 968,534.

This shows the weakness of fusion is a bad cause.

It also shows that the American people can be depended on to settle all great and vital public questions in the right way.

And yet there are those among the Populists who cannot understand that their defeat was overwhelming.

MEXICAN DOLLARS IN KANSAS.

The Populists in Kansas are talking of making the Mexican dollar a full legal tender in that state. As that commonwealth's legislative, executive and judicial departments are in full control of the Populist party, the visionaries among the leaders are discussing all sorts of foolish schemes for future legislation; and this is one of them.

Of course it is a question whether a state has power to make a foreign coin legal tender therein. Probably, if such a law is passed, it will be tested in the supreme court of the United States. The Populist backers of the scheme argue that as the national constitution simply prohibits any state from making anything but gold and silver a legal tender, such a law is entirely within the power of the state to enact.

The Blade believes that nothing would so quickly educate the Populists of Kansas out of the monetary fallacies to which they blindly adhere, than the enactment of this law. It would demonstrate that a legal tender law can not confer or create actual value. The belief of the advocates of this scheme evidently is that, by virtue of the state's fiat, Mexican dollars, worth only about 52 cents, will circulate in Kansas at par with United States silver and gold, treasury notes and national bank notes.

Nothing will so soon prove that no law can bring such a result than the actual trial. By all means let the Kansas legislature try it on.

It could injure no one but the citizens of Kansas. Any loans made in Kansas by citizens of other states, all debts or obligations held by persons not Kansas citizens, could not be affected by such a law. The United States courts would protect all obligations due to persons outside of Kansas, and compel their payment in legal tender recognized by the United States laws. Debts due in Kansas, by citizens thereof to other Kansans could be paid in Mexican dollars.

The Populists of that state would find, to their disgust and amazement, that whenever they went to a merchant or grocer to purchase anything, there would be two prices on it: one in United States legal tender, and the other, about double that, in Mexican dollars. A situation would confront them which even a Populist law could not reach. And finally the fact would drive itself through the crust of error and delusion that the value of a coin depends upon the current value of the bullion in it, and that legal tender laws cannot control it.

This is the fundamental delusion, held by thousands of people in Kansas, which leads them to support the free silver at 16 to 1 folly. When their eyes are opened to the truth, they will abandon their error. The lesson would be a costly one to Kansas and her people, but we sincerely hope they will try the scheme. It will result in the utter abandonment of all unsound money schemes by those who really believe that a legal tender law—the fiat of the government—can give to basic money a value it does not possess as bullion.

THE LEADVILLE STRIKE.

A month or so before the end of this year's campaign, a serious strike of miners took place at Leadville. The attempt to put other men at work in their places resulted in rioting and the burning of the works at the mine shafts. The state troops were called out to keep the peace; and they are still engaged in doing so. The state is paying $2,000 per day to keep the peace at the mines. The troops and an emergency force of Leadville citizens are on duty day and night, and unless some agreement is reached with the strikers in the meantime will remain on the spot until spring, when it is expected that enough workmen can be brought in from other localities to enable the mine owners to defy the strikers.

At present the Colorado people are supporting the state authorities for sending troops to Leadville. There is much dissatisfaction at the inability of the administration to bring matters to a pacific end, nevertheless, for the people do not like the idea of paying for the cost of the prolonged campaign. It is possible that when the present state administration comes to finish its term there will be a change in the policy of the officials toward the strikers. As long as affairs remain as they are at present, a bloody outbreak may be expected at any time.

The Leadville strike was not forced as an issue into the Presidential campaign as was the Homestead strike into the campaign of 1892. Then the country rang with the iniquity of Carnegie and Frick in employing force to protect the mills against strikers. The Colorado mine-owners did the same thing this year, but not a Democratic orator lifted his voice to denounce the "outrage," not a Democratic paper lifted a wild yawp against it. Why this distinction? Simply because it was workmen in silver mines who struck this year, and force was employed to protect the property of the owners of silver mines. Those gentry owned the Popocratic party this year, and consequently the mouthpieces of that party kept silence.

AS TO CUBA.

Senator Lindsay thinks President Cleveland will, in his coming message, deal largely with the Cuban question, and that he will give information to Congress on the subject that has not yet reached the public. Senator Lindsay thinks Spain can only hold Cuba, if at all, by military occupation, and that the United States should not stand by and see the Cubans subjected by extermination.

On the other hand, the Cuban junta in this country has lost all hope of any interference in favor of Cuba Libre by the President, and have turned their eyes hopefully toward President-elect McKinley. They are already making representations of the case to him, in the hope that he will, when inducted into office, give that recognition to the struggling republic that has been denied so persistently by the present administration.

In point of fact, we must wait until a week from Monday next, when the President's message will reveal what Mr. Cleveland thinks of the matter. It is possible that Senator Lindsay speaks by the card, and that document will throw additional light on the situation. Perhaps Mr. Cleveland may recommend recognition or intereference, but we doubt it. We see no reason to expect any change in his attitude of severe neutrality in the struggle.

The Washington quidnuncs believe that Hon. H. Clay Evans, of Tennessee, will not be in McKinley's cabinet, but will most likely be Fourth Assistant Postmaster General Maxwell's successor. Probably Mr. Evans has not been consulted as to this arrangement, however.

The Kentucky Republicans urge that Governor Bradley shall be given a cabinet position or a good foreign mission in recognition of that state's majority for McKinley. No Republican anywhere but will admit the justice of the demand.

Sons and fathers, read Thos. Slater's offer on page 3.

BUSINESS AND FINANCE.

The mercantile reports of the past week show an enlargement of trade, and a growing confidence everywhere. The remarkably warm weather hurt the retail trade in winter goods, but the cold wave following Thanksgiving will probably induce a much heavier demand for seasonable articles.

There is no attempt to force conditions in manufacturing. The industrial situation is much better than before the election, and from 85,000 to 90,000 more persons are employed. All engaged in manufactures are confident that the improvement will continue, and increase, so far as it can under the hamper which is put upon so many industries by the Wilson tariff law. For the removal of this, and the enactment of a properly protective tariff, all understand we must wait until the Fifty-fifth Congress meets. Whether it will be convened in extra session by President McKinley after his inauguration next March, or whether the business of the country must wait until its regular meeting one year hence, no one knows. Probably Mr. McKinley himself has not decided the point.

The feature of most interest in financial circles is the immense amount of money which is coming to light since the election. Most of this immense gain of over $35,000,000 alone in New York city has been in gold or legal tenders. It is estimated that the banks of that city lost between $150,000,000 and $200,000,000 from the time of Bryan's nomination until his defeat was ascertained. These hoarded funds are coming back into the channels of trade, making an easy money market in all the financial centers.

The New York stock market for the past week has not presented any striking changes. The easy money market and low interest rates enables dealers to carry stocks easily, and there is no disposition to sell at prevailing prices when every one anticipates a higher range of prices for stocks after New Year's day.

There is a better feeling abroad concerning American securities. Since the election fully $20,000,000 worth of American securities held abroad have been returned and sold. This is but about 1 per cent of the total volume of American investments held in Europe; and this movement has been due, not to any doubt about the soundness of our finances, for the election settled that; but was an expedient of European bankers to check the extraordinary flow of gold from them to us.

This movement of stocks from Europe has stopped. The London money market is easier, and the stock market there begins to show a tendency toward recovery in prices, which militates against any resumption of sending stocks here for sale. Even after allowing for the buying of these stocks, the international balance is in our favor to a considerable amount; and as the rate of foreign exchange is declining, it is quite likely that gold imports will be resumed.

Any such movement would make the money market easier here, and add to confidence in our financial stability. The recent imports of gold has increased our stock to $625,000,000; and if the trade conditions should be such as to bring this up to $712,000,000, the figure in the fall of 1888, it would facilitate the remodeling of our currency on a basis so strongly buttressed by gold as to compel confidence, not only at home, but all over the world, in the stability of our finances.

OUR TWO NEW CHRISTMAS OFFERS.

Don't fail to read our two new Christmas offers on the fifth page of this issue.

The first is our sheet music offer. We will send you six pieces of sheet music for 15 cents. This music is regular size of piano music, elegantly printed on heavy paper, and in every respect as good as any sheet music published anywhere. The first column gives the title of the pieces which are arranged for the voice, as well as piano or organ; the second column is of instrumental pieces only.

All music lovers should avail themselves of this unprecedented offer at once. You will be glad when you see the music, that you did so.

The second offer is our New General Atlas of the World. Last year we sold many of them to our readers, and all who received them were delighted with the work. It is not only the cheapest work of the kind ever published, but it is the best. It is correct to date, showing all the latest changes and discoveries.

Either the music or the Atlas will make an admirable Christmas gift. Get in your order early, so as to have it in time for the holidays.

OUR NATIONAL DEBT.

The Pall Mall Gazette gives the national debts of the leading countries of the world in 1875 and in 1895. The figures are given in millions of pounds and is told at a glance in the following table:

County.	1875. (Estimated.)	1895. (Estimated.)
France	£590,000,000	£1,240,000,000
Great Britain	760,000,000	960,000,000
Russia	340,000,000	575,000,000
Italy	380,000,000	505,000,000
United States	440,000,000	320,000,000
Spain	375,000,000	270,000,000
Austria-Hungary	320,000,000	296,000,000
Germany	200,000,000	84,000,000
Australasia	46,000,000	240,000,000
Turkey	135,000,000	180,000,000
Portugal	60,000,000	152,000,000
India	130,000,000	127,000,000
Brazil	94,000,000	118,000,000
Egypt	75,000,000	105,000,000
Totals	£4,324,000,000	£5,172,000,000

While a majority of the countries increased their debts, that of the United States was decreased in the 20 years by more than $500,000,000. It would have been decreased yet more had it not been for the change in governmental policy in 1892 by which a "tariff reform" President and Congress were elected with the natural result that revenues decreased and the country had to borrow money to pay running expenses. During the four years of the Harrison administration more than $250,000,000 of this debt was paid, and it will again be decreased rapidly during the McKinley administration when a proper tariff law is again on the statute books.

MR. CLEVELAND'S FUTURE.

Mr. Cleveland has purchased a residence at Princeton, N. J., and has announced that he will make it his home when he leaves the White House. The natural surprise that he should choose to become a citizen of New Jersey is mitigated when one recalls that he was born in that state. After many wanderings, the wayward son is pretty sure to turn up at home sooner or later, and settle down into a staid and respectable citizen.

The story is current that he is to take a place on the faculty of Princeton University, as a lecturer upon constitutional law. In this he follows the example set by ex-President Harrison, who delivered a series of lectures upon that subject at Leland Stanford University. Mr. Harrison, however, is well fitted for such a position, as he is an excellent lawyer, with years of experience before he reached the Presidency. Mr. Cleveland's training was by no means as thorough, nor his knowledge of law as profound and extensive as Mr. Harrison's. We doubt whether he will be of much service to Princeton except as an advertisement.

KENTUCKY'S ELECTORS.

The Popocrats in Kentucky are making every endeavor to steal the electoral vote of that state for Bryan. Their desperation may be judged from the fact that Secretary Richardson, of the Popocratic state campaign committee, has given out an official statement in which he makes a claim that at least 12 Bryan electors have been chosen in Kentucky, and says the matter will be carried before the state contest board, and, failing there, the courts will be asked to decide the contest.

The Popocrat theory is that, in Republican counties, when a voter marked opposite the first elector, the vote was counted for all the electors, while in Bryan counties the mark for the first Bryan elector was only counted for that elector. He also claims other irregularities in the count. Secretary Richardson and his friends must have a lot of money wagered on the result, and be trying to save the bets.

Weyler is angry because the Cubans insist on selecting their own fighting ground, instead of coming up to his army to be killed peaceably.

COMMENT OF THE WEEK.

The Fifty-fourth Congress will reconvene next Monday for the short session, which will end on March 4 next. The fact of the session being a short one will undoubtedly militate to some degree against the enactment of some important legislation. For one thing, the passage of the appropriation bills will occupy much of its time and can be made to occupy more. In the next place, there seems to be considerable doubt as to the policy to be pursued in reference to revenue legislation, and this may result in its postponement until the meeting of the next Congress, when there will be in the White House a President in political sympathy with the controlling party in the legislative body. Then again, no doubt some time will be taken up with the discussion of the Cuban situation, which has been gradually getting into the foreground. The outlook for a very fruitful session is therefore not at present very bright.

About the action to be taken upon the tariff nothing seems to have yet been definitely determined. Indeed, the leaders of the majority party are not agreed upon the question at all. Some of them seem to favor the passage of the Dingley bill as a means of furnishing immediately needed revenue, while others, and seemingly the more numerous of those who have spoken upon the question, urge that the effort to pass that measure be abandoned, and the task of framing a tariff law on a permanent basis be remitted to the next Congress. One of the Senators who takes this view suggests that the temporary need of revenue might be met by the authorization of a short-time loan. In all probability we must wait until the Republican members have held a caucus shortly after the meeting of Congress. Some talk is heard of the advisability of having the tariff question considered by a commission. This plan will be urged by Senator Cullom, who some time ago introduced a bill providing for the reference of the perennial tariff question to such a commission. Whether it has now any greater chance of adoption than it had before remains to be determined.

There will be a lively contest for the Democratic nomination for Speaker of the Fifty-fifth Congress, empty honor though it be. Three prominent silver Democrats, McMillin, Richardson and Bailey, are aspiring to the nomination.

In a sense, of course, the functions of the Venezuelan boundary commission may be said to have been terminated by the arbitration agreement recently concluded. Still that body has done labor which must have a very distinct value, and it expects to make some sort of a report, even if not one covering the ground originally intended. Justice Brewer has been in conference with Secretary Olney regarding the nature of the report which the commission will make. It is understood that the commission stands ready to make a final and conclusive ruling upon the question in controversy if that shall be desired, but in the event of the arbitration lately arranged for being finally accepted it will, of course, make a merely formal report submitting the evidence collected by it. At present the only apparent obstacle to the immediate ratification of the treaty is the fact that the Venezuelan congress has to be called in extra session to ratify it.

They are going to talk it over, going to ask one another what it was that defeated them; speaking generally, they are going to play a post-mortem hand and cry over spilt milk. That is what the silver leaders propose to do. A telegram from Chicago states that there is to be "an important conference" of these beaten chiefs at Washington in December. The telegram adds:

> The call for the conference will be issued next week by Gen. A. J. Warner, president, and G. E. Bowen, secretary of the American Bimetallic union. Secretary Bowen said today that it was expected Mr. Bryan would be present to offer advice, and be consulted regarding the best plan to solidify the free silver forces, and conduct an aggressive educational campaign under one organization if possible. The idea is to hold the silver forces together and lose no ground during the next four years, besides making new converts to the cause."

It is clear that these gentlemen have not read the election returns, or, having done so, fail signally to appreciate their significance. The cause of 16 to 1 is considerably more dead than the late Julius Caesar. Why do they not accept the inevitable and devote their energies to some worthy purpose?

Ninety-two cities in which Mr. Bryan made speeches during the campaign gave Cleveland a plurality of 155,765 four years ago. At the recent election these same cities gave McKinley a plurality of 450,052. This is a Republican gain of 605,837—almost as great as Grant's complete plurality over Greeley in 1872. And yet Mr. Bryan is still speaking.

The state canvassing board counted the vote of Kentucky on November 20, and announced the result. Amended returns admitted from McLean and other counties made the plurality for the first McKinley elector over the first Bryan elector 281. Kash, the first Republican elector, receiving 218,171 votes, and Smith, the first Bryan elector, 217,890. Humes and Wedding, two of the McKinley electors, are tied for last place on the Republican ticket, Mason, who seemed to be the defeated McKinley elector, having pulled through with six votes the best of the tail-enders. The other electors will have to decide between Humes and Wedding. The count was made without interruption or protest from any source.

Irrigation is making some progress in the Indian reservations in the West, where the need of it has long been felt. For example, Superintendent Graves, who has been in charge of the Crow reservation in Montana, reports that since he has been in charge, more than 100 miles of ditch channel have been constructed, through most or all of which water is now flowing, and supplying from 20,000 to 25,000 acres of land. The greater part of the work has been done by Indians. There had been drawn from the funds set apart for this work $257,599, of which $203,712 was for labor. At Fort Hall, in Idaho, a similar system of work could not well be carried out, as prior appropriations of water threatened to interfere with the supply. Accordingly a contract was made for the delivery of water with a company which proposed to furnish it. The importance of irrigation to the Indians in some of the reservations in the arid belt is well understood. Their need of water for farming and pasturing purposes is greater than that of the whites, and in some cases their wanderings beyond their proper limits is due entirely to the desire to obtain water.

The report from Berlin of the Kaiser's intention to dissolve the Reichstag seems born of foolishness. There may be a slight enough chance of getting the government's vast naval projects through in their entirety, as the present Chamber stands, but by no chance whatever could it be done in the kind of a Reichstag which the German voters would elect just now if the chance to select one was given them. William is passing through quite the thickest and darkest cloud of personal unpopularity that he has yet encountered, and it is incredible that his advisers, unless with malignant intent, will permit him to go before the electors this winter on any issue whatever, much less on his pet hobby of a gigantic navy, which most Germans hate more than anything else. Instead of coming back in numbers sufficient to form one-eighth of the whole body, as now, the conservative elements of the country would have to make a bitter fight to prevent the Social Democrats from at least doubling their numbers. The total demand made for the navy this year amounts to over $30,000,000, which may well take the German breath away.

Recent letters from Madrid give the first intelligible and comprehensive account yet obtained of the revolt in the Philippine Islands. Despite the tone of the official press of Madrid, which talks as if the rebellion were already a matter of history, it seems that Gen. Blanco is merely holding his own in Manila and its immediate vicinity. There is no certainty that the reinforcements which are being hurried out to him will enable the general to do much more than this. The fury of the rebels is directed about equally against the Spanish officials and the friars of the great religious orders, which flourish in those remote seas as nowhere on earth, and the tales of savagery on both sides make even the Cuban stories seem by comparison.

News of the dispatch of Japanese men-of-war to the scene of war, ostensibly to protect the Japanese mercantile colony at Manila, has created great excitement in Madrid, where all along the tendency to suspect Japan of sinister designs against Spain's vast possessions in the China seas has been strong.

English journals do not attempt to formulate any precise scheme of financial reform for America, although they naturally recoil from any increase of protective duties. The financiers of Lombard street lay stress upon one measure which would greatly increase European confidence in the ability of the American government to maintain gold payments in any monetary crisis. This is an amendment to the resumption practice, so as to compel the cancellation of paper when it has once been redeemed. So long as greenbacks which have been redeemed are allowed to return into general circulation European bankers and investors will be suspicious that the resumption policy may be imperiled under stress of a financial crisis. The passage of a statute compelling the treasury to destroy paper which is redeemed would be regarded by financial experts in Europe as a common-sense expedient for safeguarding the resumption policy.

The London Economist of Saturday last expresses the hope that the Republican party will realize that the mandate it has received from the country was for sound money first and tariff revision afterward. This leaves out of sight the great central fact that Cleveland's administration has been negotiating loans ostensibly for the protection of the gold reserve, but in reality to make good deficiencies of revenues under the Wilson tariff with its unconstitutional income tax, and that the first duty which any English Chancellor of the Exchequer would recognize under the same circumstances would be the obligation to supply the treasury with an income equal to its current expenditures.

Tidings that organized subscriptions under high ecclesiastical and official auspices are starting in various towns of Russia for the relief of the distress in India are not received well in England. Despite the recent assurances from the distinguished authorities that the Russians and the English now love each other like brothers, the island is still saturated under cover with a profound suspicion of the Muscovite. It would take very little to reproduce the scare about Russian designs on India which so thrilled England twelve years ago next April.

Independent of Russia there are continual disquieting signs in India, trivial in detail, but unpleasant in the aggregate, that something has been going on under the surface ever since that mysterious smearing of trees, though no one can tell what it is. Isolated assassinations of British officers have always happened, but they have been very frequent lately, and it is noted, too, that the Sepoy troops, though right enough in camp, have taken on a novel attitude of truculency with the civic police in the streets. It may all mean nothing, but with the big strain of famine added, there is enough warrant for some nervousness. Therefore the merest hint of Russian meddling evokes a prompt growl.

Probably the subscriptions themselves are innocent enough, because the Russians are a childishly generous people, and they remember the help that was extended to their own starving districts a few years ago, but Russian papers of the Novoe Vremya type delight in giving the thing a malevolent anti-English twist, and it is their talk which reaches England.

Some points of interest are set forth in the annual report of the Japanese Bureau of Merchant Marine, which has just been received in the United States. The report discloses the fact that Japan is making very energetic strides in the development of its merchant marine. It shows that Japan has registered for foreign trade 109 iron and steel steamships, of 231,139 gross tons, whereas the United States has registered for foreign trade 103 vessels of the same kind, of 220,503 gross tons. The Japanese merchant fleet includes 114 vessels of over 1,000 tons, chiefly steamers of British or German build. The American merchant fleet on the Pacific coast numbers 119 vessels of this size. The chief Japanese steamship line, which has recently made Seattle one of its terminal points, owns 51 steamers of 28,000 tons, whereas the Pacific Mail line employs 15 steamers of 43,000 tons on the Pacific. Since 1890 twenty shipyards have been established in Japan, some of them of very large capacity, and the subsidy law which went into effect in October gives shipbuilders a bounty of $10 per gross ton on steel vessels over 1,000 tons.

Eleven thousand lightermen and shipscleaners are now on a strike at Hamburg. In order to present a united opposition to the strikers the ship-owners and port labor contractors of Hamburg have joined the Employers' Federation.

Heavy importations of wheat have been authorized by the government of Portugal to meet the deficiency in the home crop.

CURRENT EVENTS.

The amount paid in wages annually by Glasgow Corporation amount to 500,126 pounds.

At a G. A. R. picnic at Searsport, Me., a three-eighth inch pearl was found in a clam pie.

Seventy-two races inhabit the world, and use 3,064 different tongues. There are about 1,000 religions.

Out of 100 teeth of adults that 25 years ago would have been ruthlessly extracted, 90 are now saved by science.

Governor-elect E. W. Tunnell, of Delaware, is seriously ill with gastritis at the home of his brother-in-law in Lewes, Del.

Modern dentists can remedy crooked or protecting jaws by special appliances that gradually train the jaws into their normal position.

Herbert L. Mathews, of Kansas City, who died the other day, was regarded as one of the greatest authorities on old books in the West.

A magnificent specimen of the golden eagle, which was caught in a trap in Sutherlandshire, has been handed over to the British Museum.

The great-great-grandchildren of Sir Walter Scott are seven in number, and four of them are boys. The eldest, Walter Joseph, is now in his twenty-first year.

The Sultan of Turkey gets 1,460,000 pounds a year, the Emperor of Austria manages with 912,500, while the Emperor William only receives 730,000 pounds a year.

Prof. F. C

Publishers' Column.

WALTHAM AND ELGIN WATCHES.

Some months ago, after supplying our readers several thousand good watches at wholesale prices, we discontinued the offer. For a few weeks we shall offer the following small list much below our former prices, owing to reduction of certain grades by the manufacturer. A couple will be recognized as standard watches of our former list. The others are good grades at reduced prices.

OFFER NO. 8.—BLADE SPECIAL.

Open Face or Hunting Case, Waltham or Elgin Works—Be Sure to Name Your Choice When You Order.

A $200 solid gold watch cannot be bought for $20, but the Weekly Blade offers a watch under the above number which has all the appearances and most of the good qualities of a $200 watch. You have probably never seen a watch like this and must therefore depend upon us for the description of the latest, handsomest and best watch made by the great American Waltham and Elgin factories. Time and money have been spent in bringing this particular watch to perfection. The movement (or works) contains 15 jewels, compensation balance, safety pinion, patent regulator, and all improvements. The case is the thinnest filled watch case ever made. Remember, we mean that the watch when closed in the pocket is thin. The lids of the case are the usual thickness and form a perfect protection for the movement. The case is made of a plate of fine composition metal, over which two heavy sheets of 14k. gold are drawn, making a case that is for all purposes as good as gold, and warranted for 20 years. Every part which is subjected to constant wear, such as the ring, thumb piece, joint plugs, hinges, etc., is of solid gold. The works are especially recommended where the most accurate time is required. This is just the watch for doctors, lawyers, clergymen, county committeemen, and all others who wish a really first-class article. As a present it cannot be excelled. It is so thin and convenient in form that it will even make a good and satisfactory ladies' watch, and it is especially recommended for school teachers and other professional women on account of its accuracy, which is equalled by no watch made especially for ladies.

We will send this watch, open face or hunting case, as desired, by registered mail to any of our subscribers for $20.

No. 333.

No. 333 is one of the finest gentlemen's watches we have ever offered. The movements, either Waltham or Elgin, are full jeweled, and are guaranteed perfect timekeepers. The case is of the finest gold-filled, and guaranteed to wear the same as solid gold for 15 years. The price of this watch in open face is $13.50, and in hunting case, $16.50.

Elgin or Waltham, Men's Size, $4.75.

No. 4 is a men's size, Waltham or Elgin Watch, containing seven jewels and all improvements, including expansion balance, plain regulator, stem winding and setting apparatus, etc. The case is a combination of silver and nickel, and will wear just like solid silver. It is open face, and the crystal is made of plate glass so heavy as to withstand any strain.

The usual price of this watch is $8. We send it to subscribers by registered mail for $4.75.

We will also furnish No. 4 with beautiful nickel movement and fancy regulator, either Waltham or Elgin, for $6.00.

Lady's Watches, Waltham or Elgin, $20.00.

No. 15.—The works are manufactured at Waltham or Elgin. They are made of the finest materials, carefully selected. The jewels are all cut and polished in Europe, where secret processes are handed down from generation to generation. The dial is made of the finest porcelain, and the hands of blue tempered steel. The case is solid 14k. United States assay, handsomely engraved. This watch is a stem winder and setter and hunting case. We will send this watch, delivery guaranteed, for $20.

Lady's Watches, Waltham or Elgin, $15.

No. 16.—The works of No. 16 are the same as No. 15, but the case is gold filled, 14k., guaranteed to wear just like solid gold for 20 years. The joints, plugs and parts exposed to unusual wear are solid gold. It is hunting case, and is handsomely engraved. Sent by registered mail, delivery guaranteed, for $15.

Gentlemen's Watches.

No. 200.—Solid gold 40 dwt. hunting case with Elgin or Waltham works, 18 size, 14 karat, and guaranteed timekeeper, sent by registered mail to any part of the United States for $33.50.

No. 201.—Gold filled Elgin or Waltham watch, 18 size, open face case, guaranteed for 15 years. The movement or works contain seven jewels. This watch will be sent to any subscriber of The Blade in perfect order, delivery guaranteed, for $10.

Address all orders:

THE BLADE,
Toledo, Ohio.

FAMOUS BATTLE PICTURES.

Owing to a popular demand from our subscribers, and especially from members of the G. A. R., we have arranged with a large publisher for a quantity of pictures of the most celebrated battles of the civil war. These pictures are of a high grade, chromo colors, large size (22x28), reproduced from the original oil paintings with wonderful accuracy. More than 100,000 have been sold during the past year at one dollar each, and our price to any person who orders a picture alone will be one dollar. But we did not get these pictures for sale or for profit. We propose to give one picture free, postpaid by mail, to every person sending us $1 for the Weekly Blade one year. If your time expires soon, you can obtain a picture when you renew. If your time expires some time hence, and you want a picture now, send a dollar, and let us extend your time a year ahead from date of expiration. Or, get us a new subscriber and we will enter the new name for Blade one year, and send the picture to the new renter, if so directed. However, we are confident those who obtain one picture, will want several more, or perhaps all of them. You can obtain them one at a time by sending us new dollar subscribers. Try one of them when you renew.

NOTICE, however, that the above offer is only to those who send us $1 for subscription or renewal after this date.

Here is the list; make your selection from it:

Battle of Gettysburg, Pa.
Battle of Shiloh, Tenn.
Battle of Five Forks, Va.
Battle of Missionary Ridge, Tenn.
Battle of The Wilderness, Va.
Battle of Fort Donelson, Tenn.
Battle of Champion Hill, Miss.
Battle of Antietam, Md.
Battle of Atlanta, Ga.
Battle of Spottsylvania, Va.
Battle of Vicksburg, Miss.
Battle of Chattanooga, Tenn.
Battle of Cold Harbor Va.
Battle of Resaca, Ga.
Battle of Lookout Mountain, Tenn.
Battle of Ohuistee, Fla.
Battle of Fredericksburg, Va.
Battle of Bunker Hill.
Battle of Tippecanoe.
Battle between the Monitor and the Merrimac.
Battle of Ten Ridge, Ark.
Battle of Bull's Run, Va.
Battle of Chancellorsville, Va.
Battle of Big Horn (Custer's Last Charge.)
Battle of Chickamauga, Ga.
Storming of Fort Wagner, S. C.
Capture of Fort Fisher, N. C.
Battle of New Orleans, La.
Battle of Cedar Creek, Va.
Capture and Death of Sitting Bull.
Battle of Kenesaw Mountain, Ga.
Battle of Stone River, Tenn.
Assault on Fort Sanders, Tenn.
Battle of Franklin, Tenn.
Battle of Nashville, Tenn.
Battle of Corinth Miss.
Perry's Victory on Lake Erie.
Fort Pillow Massacre, Tenn.
Battle of Wilson's Creek, Mo.
Battle of Williamsburg, Va.
Fall of Petersburg, Va.
Battle of Opequan or Winchester, Va.

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We are now enabled to offer to subscribers of The Blade (and to subscribers only, remember,) teaspoons, dessert spoons, tablespoons and forks, made of composition known as nickel silver, which so closely resembles solid silver that an expect might be deceived. It is indestructible, does not tarnish as easily as solid silver from exposure to the air, and it is finished in the same manner as the solid silver goods. The patterns are no thicker than solid silver.

Prices.

They are sent by registered mail, postpaid, at the following prices:

1 dozen teaspoons	$1 25
½ dozen teaspoons	83
1 dozen tablespoons or forks	2 35
½ dozen tablespoons or forks	1 83
1 dozen dessert spoons or forks	2 00
½ dozen dessert spoons or forks	1 13
½ dozen table knives	2 25
1 dozen table knives	4 25

These are made in only the one pattern. They are sent by express. There can be no variation from these offers. Only subscribers to The Blade can buy at these prices, but they can buy as much as they like.

CUT PAPER PATTERNS

Splendid Offer to Lady Readers of The Blade.

NO. 6895, MISSES' WAIST—NO. 6874, MISSES' CIRCULAR SKIRT.

One of the latest innovations in the color scheme that embraces the exquisite autumn tints is here represented in the beautiful fabric called Melange. The trimmings are of velvet of a darker shade, with a full vest of creamy satin. The trim adjustment is accomplished by single bust darts and under-arm gores, the seamless back being

6895—Misses' Waist.
6874—Misses' Circular Skirt.

rounded at the waist line, while the jacket fronts are slightly pointed to just below the waist line. The full vest is gathered at upper and lower edges, and falls gracefully over the crushed belt in blouse style, being arranged over fitted linings that close in center front. The stylish sleeves, close fitting to above the elbow, are topped with short puffs of moderate fullness that are quite the latest style.

The skirt of circular shape presents the fashionable flare at the lower edge. The top fits smoothly across the hips with gathers on each side of the placket, which is finished in the center back seam. The mode is exceedingly "chic," and becoming to young misses.

Any one of the plain or mixed dress fabrics may be employed in making, embracing cheviot, etamine, mohair, serge or tweed, in tones of tan, blue, green, heliotrope, with velvet or ribbed silk for trimming.

To make the waist for a miss of 14, it will require 1½ yards of 44-inch wide material, and 1½ yards of silk for the full vest. To make the skirt it will require 2¾ yards of the same width goods. The waist pattern, No. 6895, can be had in sizes for misses 10, 12, 14 and 16 years of age, and retails for 25 cents. The skirt pattern, No. 6874, can be had in sizes for misses 10, 12, 14 and 16 years of age, and retails for 30 cents.

NO. 6906—LADIES' NEW BELL SKIRT.

A feature of the season's styles is the new Bell skirt here represented in tinsel shot brocade. The mode is much improved in its adaptation to those who have grown tired of the cumbersome wide heavy skirts and to whom the very full skirts were not becoming.

It is shaped in three portions, the circular

6906—Ladies' New Bell Skirt.

front being fitted at the top by small pinces taken in at the top. These can, however, be omitted and the fullness thus caused held in gathers when sewn to the belt. The fronts meet the back portions that are arranged in plaits, at the top turning toward the center, the placket being finished in the center-back seam. Its sweep at the foot measures a trifle over 4½ yards.

This is the newest skirt of the season and its popularity is already established. It is adapted to every kind of material in silk, wool and mixed textures, the striped metallic effect showing to great advantage by the mode. To make this skirt in the medium size requires 4¾ yards of 44-inch wide material. The pattern, No. 6906, may be had for a 22, 24, 26, 28 and 30-inch waist measure.

READ THE OFFER:

The above pattern or patterns will be mailed to any address for only 10 cents each. We will fill orders from any person, whether a regular or occasional reader of The Blade. In ordering, address "Pattern Department, Blade, Toledo, Ohio," enclose ten cents silver for each pattern wanted, (do not send stamps if you can obtain other funds). State both title and number of pattern. No coupon required.

Full description and directions—as the number of yards and material required, the number and names of the different pieces in the pattern, how to cut and put the garment together—are sent with each pattern, with a picture of the garment to go by.

EXTRA POSTAGE.

Uncle Sam Holds Up the Mail Carriers for This.

Many people of Toledo, in receiving their mail, often find a letter on which is stamped "Due One Cent." None scruple to accept the letter without thought of paying the "shy" postage. It is such a small matter that they never think of it, but read the letter and toss it aside. If they do consider it, they think they have just got the better of Uncle Sam one cent, but they haven't. Uncle Sam is scrupulously exact about his bookkeeping and the man who beats him out of a cent must be clever, if perhaps we except the government contractors, who always give him the worst of it.

A Toledo mail carrier, speaking the other day relative to excess postage, said:

"Uncle Sam gets every cent due him. If it is not paid by the receiver of the letter, it comes out of our salaries. We are supposed to collect the postage, but often we don't get it. It's such a small amount that people don't think of paying us, and we don't stop to worry about collecting it. It is quite frequent to have fifty cents or so to pay out of our salary every month. It is a small thing to the receiver of the letter, but amounts to a neat little sum in a year to us."

DON'TS.

Don't overlook small rips.

Don't undervalue the worth of good linings.

Don't forget the value of ammonia, alcohol, and other cleansing fluids.

Don't buy cheap goods. They are too dear for people with short purses.

Don't neglect the skirt binding. Nothing confirms or denies the lady more thoroughly than the condition of her binding. Rather choose one dress well made and of good material and good linings than several mediocre gowns.

USE BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES for Coughs, Colds, and all other Throat Troubles.—"Pre-eminently the best."—Rev. Henry Ward Beecher.

CARRYING RETURNS

LAWS GOVERNING THE MEETING OF PRESIDENTIAL ELECTORS.

The Delivery of Their Votes—Messengers Allowed Twenty-Five Cents Per Mile.

Concerning the meeting of the Presidential electors and the subsequent steps to be taken in the premises, a correspondent of the New York Times writes as follows:

The electors chosen in the different states will meet on the first Wednesday in December, according to the law, in the places provided by the legislatures of each state. In every case this is the state capitol. In meeting the electors will give their votes for McKinley or Bryan—no other of the candidates having received enough votes in any states to entitle them to consideration. The result of the vote will then be made out in triplicate. One copy will be sent to the President of the Senate by mail; one copy will be sent to him by messenger, and one copy will be delivered to the judge of the district in which the electors assemble. To these copies will be annexed lists of the electors prepared by the executive of each state, according to the official returns.

The reason for taking three copies of the vote of the electors is the possibility that one or two may go astray, and the precaution has been found wise in more than one instance. At the time of Mr. Harrison's election it was necessary to send to the district judge to obtain the vote of some of the states. The messenger having gone astray somewhere, and the vote by mail having been lost in transit.

The messengers have one month in which to reach the capital. If they have not arrived by the first Wednesday in January, and if the postal return has not been received by that time, the President of the Senate sends a special messenger to get the returns from the district judge.

For performing the service of carrying the returns safely to Washington, the messengers are allowed by law 25 cents for each mile of "estimated distance by the most used road." The distance from Annapolis is short, and the messenger of Maryland will not be overpaid for his labor. But the distance from San Francisco by way of Omaha and Chicago is 3,227 miles and the California messenger therefore will receive more than $800 for his journey. The distance from Portland, Orgeon, is 3,310 miles and the messenger from Oregon will receive about $20 more than the messenger from California. The messenger from Minnesota will receive pay for only 1,254 miles, or about $300. He can perform the service in three or four days at the most; so you will see he is not ill-paid. The messenger from Illinois will receive more than $200.

When these messengers reach Washington they will call on the President of the Senate and deliver the returns to him in person. If one of them arrives on a day when the president is not at the capitol he will have to wait. If the vice president is presiding over the senate when the messenger arrives he will be called out. The vice president will receive each of the returns sealed, and will give a receipt for it. Then he will place the envelope, still sealed, in a little iron safe, which stands in one corner of the vice president's room. It has stood there for a great many years and is not a very modern safe; but there is no inducement for any one to break into it. If the original returns should be stolen it would be asy enough to obtain the duplicates.

There is a reverse side to the joyful occupation of electoral messenger. The messenger who fails to perform his duty for which he has been chosen and does not deliver the vote entrusted to him "shall forfeit the sum of one thousand dollars," according to the statute. He is not to pay a fine in a sum "not to exceed one thousand dollars," but it is imperative that he be fined the whole amount.

There is a reverse side to the joyful occupation in case the Vice President should be absent from Washington. In that event the messenger may deliver the vote to the secretary of state, who will give a receipt for it.

A great many persons no doubt are puzzled to know what would happen if Major McKinley should die before the electoral vote was cast, on the first Wednesday in December. That happened in the case of Horace Greeley in 1872. He died before the electors met, and all those who had been chosen on the ticket with the exception of three from Georgia, voted for Thomas Markham. They pleased. The three cast their votes for Mr. Greeley; but when the votes were canvassed by Congress it was determined not to count the three votes for Mr. Greeley. If Major McKinley should die it is quite likely that the votes of the electors would be cast for Mr. Hobart, but it is possible that they would be scattered, and in that way the election would be thrown into the House of Representatives. In such a case there is no knowing who would be President.

The House and Senate will canvass the votes of the electors on the first Wednesday in February. The Senate will go over to the hall of the House of Representatives in body, headed by Vice President Stevenson and Secretary Fox, followed by Chief Page Stewart, over whose shoulders will be hung by a strap two wooden boxes containing the precious votes. The members of the House will rise as the Senators enter by two and two. The Vice President will mount the rostrum and take a seat at the right of Speaker Reed.

The two tellers for the Senate (Mr Hale and Mr. Blackburn officiated four years ago) will sit at the desk below and below them will sit the two Houstellers. The Vice President will then take the envelopes handed to him by Stewart in their alphabetical order. In the first count the states were taken according to geographical location, beginning with Maine; but since 1876 they have been taken alphabetically. Each certificate as it is taken from its envelope he will hand to the tellers and they will read them in turn, the Senate tellers reading the first two and the House tellers the next two. The vote of Alabama will be read in full and then unanimous consent will be asked and granted that the remaining certificates be summarized. A double tally of the votes will be kept. That will be a comparatively simple matter this time, because it is known now what the vote of each state will be; and even if some constitutional objection was raised to the counting of one of the states, it would not involve enough votes to affect the result of the election.

When the votes have been counted and the totals have been announced for each candidate, the Vice President will announce that William McKinley, of Ohio, having received a majority of all the votes cast for President, has been elected President of the United States, and that Garret A. Hobart, of New Jersey, having received a majority of the votes cast for Vice President, is elected Vice President of the United States. He will then adjourn the joint session of the House and Senate, and the Senators will return to their own hall or Senate chamber. If after the canvassing of the electoral vote the President-elect should die before the day fixed for his inauguration, the Vice President would become President.

The Real Sufferer.

"Jack's wife has insomnia."

"Poor creature! That is hard on her."

"No, it is hard on Jack, for she is always awake when he comes in."

Mild Treatment.

"Kitty, did you have a good time at the bargain sale?"

"Yes, lovely. I only had my hat pulled off six times, and I didn't get kicked in the back but once."

No Gripe

When you take Hood's Pills. The big, old-fashioned, sugar-coated pills, which tear you all to pieces, are not in it with Hood's. Easy

Hood's Pills

to take and easy to operate, is true of Hood's Pills. Safe, certain and sure. All druggists. 25c.

Prepared by C. I. Hood & Co., Lowell, Mass.

The only pills to take with Hood's Sarsaparilla.

Fifty Years Ago.

No theory of germs to chill
Affection's budding blisses;
When ardent lovers took their fill,
No microbes on their kisses.
How happy they were not to know
The germ-fad—50 years ago.

Ayer's Cherry Pectoral

is the standard family remedy of the world for colds, coughs and lung diseases. It is not a palliative, and is not therefore put up in small cheap bottles. It is put up in large bottles for the household. They cost more but cure more.

Fads come and go but no theory or fad can overthrow the fact, that the greatest cure for all colds, coughs and throat and lung diseases, is Ayer's Cherry Pectoral.

50 Years of Cures.

THE SUM OF LIFE.

Nothing to do but to work,
Nothing to eat but food,
Nothing to wear but clothes,
To keep one from going nude.

Nothing to breathe but air,
Quick as a flash 'tis gone,
Nowhere to fall but off,
Nowhere to stand but on.

Nothing to comb but hair,
Nowhere to sleep but in bed,
Nothing to weep but tears,
Nothing to bury but dead.

Nothing to sing but songs,
Ah well! alas! alack!
Nowhere to go but out,
Nowhere to come but back.

Nothing to see but sights,
Nothing to quench but thirst,
Nothing to have but what we've got,
Thus through life we are cursed.

Nothing to strike but a gait,
Everything moves that goes,
Nothing at all but common sense
Can ever withstand these woes.
—Selected.

HIDDEN TREASURE.

The Inca's Hidden Ransom Somewhere on Peruvian Mountains.

Adventurers who seek more gold without reference to art, should turn to Peru. To begin with, the balance of the Inca's ransom is hidden somewhere in the mountains between Coxamarca and Cuzco. We may confidently assume that it has not been discovered, for if put into circulation at home the money market would have been convulsed, whereas the finders would have had no reason for keeping the secret had they got safely away to Europe. As for the evidence of deposit, there is Pizarro's official report that his comrade would not wait until the celebrated room was full. They were too impatient to murder their captives, though they knew that the bullion levied upon the temple at Cuzco was on its way, transported by 100,000 llamas, each carrying 100 pounds of purest gold. The figure is not incredible, seeing how much remained when the Conquistadores sacked Cuzco. News of the murder reached that precious caravan in the mountains; forthwith the priests buried their gold and returned. Every one concerned with the expedition, who could be identified, was tortured to death, but none would speak. Such is the contemporary account. But we observe that Sir Clements Markham, president of the Royal Geographical Society, obtained some information during his memorable expedition to Peru. He states, as if it were well known in the neighborhood, that the caravan left the highway at a spot now called Azanjaro—a name which people derive from the Indian "Asuan caran," meaning "more distant." "Away from the road!" cried the priests. "Further away!" One always feels the strongest reluctance to accept derivations of a place-name from a spoken word. But it is not impossible nor improbable that in the course of centuries some hint of a secret which must be known to many Indians should have leaked out. This clew does not carry one far, however, among the peaks and caverns of the Andes, even if it be trustworthy.

PEACOCK PLUMES.

It is strange that in widely separated countries and among people differing from one another in language and characteristics the same ideas on the matter of luck seem to prevail. In regard to peacock feathers there is a widely diversified sentiment. It is more a matter of individual preference whether the handsome feather is shunned or admired.

In many parts of England persons are to be found who would shrink, if not with horror at least with dislike from using the peacock feather as a decoration. One old woman will tell you that so long as the uncanny feathers are in the house no love will come seeking the girls of the household, while another old woman will prophesy a string of calamities that will follow as sure as fate the introduction of peacock feathers into a household.

A curious incident in connection with these feathers occurred a few years ago at Drury Lane theatre in London. The pantomime included an "Olympian procession." Among the gods and goddesses who marched under direction of the stage manager was Juno, but there was not a sign about her costume to associate her with the peacock, the bird especially dedicated to the queen of heaven. This absence of indication was commented upon and a dramatic journal explained that the omission was not accidental but designed, as theatrical persons had a superstitious aversion to the peacock in any form appearing on the stage.

—Don't dally with rheumatism. Purify your blood and cure it at once by taking a course of Hood's Sarsaparilla.

TORONTO'S HAY PALACE.

It Will Be Absolutely Unique—Cigars to Be Prohibited.

A palace of hay has just been decided upon by the directors of the National Exposition, to be held at Toronto. A mammoth structure will be erected from the bales of pressed hay on the exhibition grounds of the big American fair. It will be used to advertise the vast hay-producing country of the West. Large bales of compressed hay will be sent down from the Northwest and the buildings will be built of these blocks. When completed the building will be festooned with wheat and other grains in the sheaf and in bunches, and the entrance will be tastefully arranged. Inside the space will be divided off, so as to display the exhibits from each district. Should it escape its great liability to destruction by fire it will form a unique and picturesque feature of the exposition, and one of unusual attraction and interest to farmers.

In Appropriate Color.

"Ah, if I could only paint the voice!" said the artist.

"You can," said the critic. "Take Miss Screech's voice—you can reproduce it in yeller."—The Million.

A Dramatic Evasion.

"Pilkington has learned to play foot ball, but he doesn't want his wife to know it.

"Why not?

"She might think he was healthy enough to beat the carpet."

Sunday Labor in Africa.

Sunday labor in the Rand gold fields in South Africa is permitted for the first time now by a recent vote of the Transvaal Volksraad.—New York Sun.

So Far as He Knew.

"Are you well?"

"I believe so, yet I can't say positively; I haven't had time to look up the new diseases in to-day's paper yet."—Judge.

FORGOTTEN COPAN.

THE "DANCING GIRL" CARVEN ON ITS RUINED WALLS.

The Mystery of a City in the Wilds of Honduras, Dating Back of All History.

The dancing girl recovered from the ruins of Copan, a city long buried in Honduras, is a puzzle and mystery to the most knowing archaeologists. Her name seems to be written everywhere in the subterranean vaults and chambers of the city which lay entombed for centuries, yet no one can make it out or read the numerous inscriptions.

The singing and dancing girl seems to indicate that the ancient people were lovers of music and song. Other relics found show that there must have been ages ago, in prehistoric times a cultivated people inhabiting these regions who were skilled in architecture, with artistic tastes and a well-formulated philosophy. Among the carvings are Alaskan images, the head dress of the Romans and the armor of the Egyptians and hanging before some of the figures are the sporrans of the Scotchman. The interesting feature of it all, too, is that this ancient city must have been buried long before the historic times of these other people.

The dancing girl, her image clothed in stone, has stood all these ages to tell of her race while other peoples have come and gone from the Central American isthmus. The natives of Honduras, though they have many traditions, can give no explanation of the engravings which are everywhere found and it is said that the key to the ancient race is lost. Copan is snugly hidden among the mountains twelve miles back from Guatemala and in the midst of a beautiful valley. A turbulent river which rushes down the valley has worn away the doorway of the temple in which the

THE DANCIN GIRL.

singing girl reigned supreme. The hieroglyphics, curiously carved images, knives carved from stone and beautiful sea shells in wondrous profusion all through the corridors in the subterranean temples are of great interest to those who study the habits of ancient peoples. There is a stone picture of a woman holding a serpent and it is thought that this people knew the story of Adam and Eve.

—Do not allow your system to get weak and debilitated. It is easy to keep well and strong by taking Hood's Sarsaparilla.

THE DOLL'S WEDDING.

There's a wedding to-day in the garden below,
Where the pinks and the marigolds stand in a row.
The prettiest wedding that ever was seen,
I know, for I peeped through the trellises green.

The bride is a doll that is nearly as tall
As the lily that leans to look over the wall,
In a gown of pink silk she is gorgeously dressed,
With a plume in her hat and a brooch on her breast.

The groom is a sailor boy gallant and bold,
In a cap and a jacket all braided with gold.
(Both dollies belong to a lassie of three
Whose fancy bubbles over with frolic and glee.)

There are roses above, there are roses around,
And the petals of roses lie thick on the ground.
And the robin is there with his silvery flute,
And the oriole clad in his flame-colored suit.

Little Tiny the terrier married the pair,
Sitting up on a bench with a serious air,
With grandmother's kerchief as clerical cape,
And grandmother's spectacles over his nose.
—Minnie Irving in Frank Leslie's Monthly.

NOBILITY SHOWN BY BUTTONS.

They Plan an Important Part in the Chinese Mandarins' Dress.

Buttons play an important part in the dress of the Chinese mandarins, says an exchange. Those of the first and second class wear a button of coral red, suggested perhaps by a cock's comb, since the cock is the bird that adorns their breast. The third cliass is gorgeous with a robe on which a peacock is emblazoned, while from the center of the red fringe of silk upon the hat rises a sapphire button. The purple button of the fourth class is an opaque, dark purple stone, and the bird depicted on the robe is the pelican. A silver pheasant on the robe and a clear crystal button on the hat are the rank of the fifth class. The sixth class is entitled to wear an embroidered stork and a jade stone button; the seventh a partridge and an embossed gold button. In the eighth the partridge is reduced to a quail and the gold button becomes plain, while the ninth class mandarin has to be content with a common sparrow for his emblem and with silver for his button.

MATILDA ANN AND ME.

When the nights are getting longer,
And the frosts begin to fall,
While the early pippins ripen,
By the mossy garden wall,
Then I take my easy rocker,
In the kitchen, after tea,
And we're happy as two lovers,
Just Matilda Ann and me.

While she washes out the dishes,
In her deft and dainty way,
'Tis a pleasure just to watch her,
And I haven't much to say.
As she sets them in the cupboard,
And we both of us agree,
Not to light the parlor burner,
For Matilda Ann and me.

So we put our feet together
Closer to the glowing hearth,
And declare there ne'er existed
Such a home as ours on earth.
Then sometimes she lets me kiss her,
Shades are down and none can see,
Else I'm sure they'd stop to envy
My Matilda Ann and me.
—Lalia M. Mitchell.

The Best Man.

"They say the Raftons have sent over to the drug store for court plaster."

"What a shame! Raffton ought to be trounced for abusing that nice little woman."

"But the court plaster was for Mr. Raffton."—Chicago Record.

Young men or old should not fail to read Tiffin Elixir's offer on page 8.

Housewives Can easily chop meat for sausage and mince-meat, hamburg steak, suet, corn for fritters, scrap meat for poultry, hash, beef for tea, etc., with the

ENTERPRISE MEAT CHOPPER

—TINNED—

The Most Effective Chopper Ever Made.

No. 5 chops one pound in a minute, $2.00. No. 10, chops two pounds in a minute, $3.00. Larger sizes described in our Catalogue. Ask your dealer.

Send two 2c stamps for the "Enterprising Housekeeper," 200 recipes.

The Enterprise M'f'g Co. of Pa., Phila., Pa.

THE PIE COUNTER.

Less Than 5,000 Offices to Be Filled, Including 3,000 Postmasters.

The civil service commission has nearly completed an exhaustive report showing the number, scope and distribution of the government army of employes who will take their pap from Uncle Sam's new golden lined spoons. This voluminous report, it is said, will be first submitted to President-elect McKinley, that he may gain a comprehensive and strategic insight into the personal patronage which accrues to the high office of Executive of the nation. When Mr. McKinley enters the White House it will be with considerable freer hands than any of his predecessors.

Mr. McKinley will have it in his power to appoint to government positions, subject to confirmation by the Senate, less than 5,000 individuals, including 3,000 first, second and third class postmasters. He will have less than 90 positions to fill in Washington, the largest number, 26, going to the treasury department; the interior department next with 22.

Under the treasury department there will be, outside the city of Washington, 363 collectors, special agents, appraisers and assistant treasurers.

Under the interior department, outside of the city, there will be registers of the United States land offices, receivers of public moneys at the United States land offices, Indian agents and a board of Indian commissioners.

Under the postoffice department, there will be 3,000 first, second and third class postmasters.

Under the department of justice, outside of Washington, there are 125 United States judges, 76 United States district attorneys, 76 United States marshals and 15 justices of the peace.

Under the department of state, outside of Washington, there are 59 diplomatic offices, and 288 places in the consular service.

SALT THIS DOWN.

Salt will put out a fire in the chimney.

Salt in the oven under baking tins will prevent their contents scorching on the bottom.

Salt and vinegar will remove stains from discolored teacups.

Salt and soda are excellent to apply to bee-stings and spider bites.

Salt thrown on soot fallen on the carpet will prevent a stain.

Salt put on freshly spilt ink on carpets or rugs will assist in removing the stain.

Salt in whitewash makes it stick.

Salt thrown on a low coal fire will revive it.

Salt used in sweeping carpets will keep out moths.

Mrs. Li Hung Chang.

Marchioness Li, the wife of Li Hung Chang, of China, is described as a very beautiful and, for China, a learned woman, who looks 35 and is 55. Her husband's wealth is fabulous, and she spends royally, though she keeps accurate account of every penny. In her magnificent home on the banks of the Pei-Ho, she lives in great splendor, surrounded by song birds, peacocks, aquaria, pottery, gems, botanical collections and 1,000 attendants and servants. She has 2,000 coats, 1,200 pairs of "trouserettes," and 500 fur robes. Her feet are so small that she is unable to walk more than a few steps, but twice a day she bathes in oil of orange and acacia blooms and takes an airing in a coolie sedan. Finally, she dresses her hair in fifty ways, her favorite coiffure being a la griffin.—The Ledger.

The Ruling Passion.

"Whatever now happens to me," he said violently, "the consequences are upon your head." "Really!" said the maiden, "I hope they are on straight."

Strange New Shrub That Cures Kidney and Bladder Diseases, Rheumatism, Etc., Free.

We have previously described the new botanical discovery, Alkavis, which proves a specific cure for diseases caused by Uric acid in the blood, or disorder of the Kidneys or urinary organs. It is now stated that Alkavis is a product of the well-known Kava-Kava Shrub, and is a specific cure for these diseases just as quinine is for malaria. Hon. R. C. Wood, of Lowell, Ind., writes that in four weeks Alkavis cured him of Kidney and bladder disease of ten years' standing, and Rev. Thomas M. Owen, of West Rutland, Vt., gives similar testimony. Many ladies also testify to its wonderful curative powers in disorders peculiar to womanhood. The only importers of Alkavis so far are the Church Kidney Cure Co., of 418 Fourth Avenue, New York, and they are so anxious to prove its value that for the sake of introduction they will send a free treatment of Alkavis prepaid by mail to every reader of The Blade who is a Sufferer from any form of Kidney or Bladder Disorder, Bright's Disease, Rheumatism, Dropsy, Gravel, Pain in Back, Female Complaints, or other afflictions due to improper action of the Kidneys or Urinary Organs. We advise all Sufferers to send their names and address to the company, and receive the Alkavis free. It is sent to you entirely free, to prove its wonderful curative power.

THE WEEKLY BLADE.

The Weekly Blade

One Year

FOR ONLY..... **5c**

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New General Atlas of the World

Our Christmas Offer.

The size of the page is 12x14¼ inches; 160 pages; 157 colored map-pages of every country on the face of the globe. Every map in colors, accompanied and explained by a marginal index showing subdivisions, counties, etc., etc., alphabetically arranged, with total population also classified according to sex, nativity, race and color, and, further, showing the population of cities, towns and villages, all the latter being arranged according to size.

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THE BLADE, Toledo, Ohio.

THE WEEKLY BLADE.

SHEET MUSIC

We have made arrangements with one of the largest music houses on this continent to furnish our readers with SIX PIECES, full size, complete and unabridged SHEET MUSIC for FIFTEEN CENTS.

This great sheet music offer is, without the least doubt, the greatest value for the least money ever before offered by any newspaper in the whole history of journalism. The quality of this sheet music is the very best. The composers' names are household words all over the continent. None but high price copyright pieces or most popular reprints. It is printed on regular sheet music paper, from new plates made from large, clear type, and is in every way first class and worthy of a place in your home.

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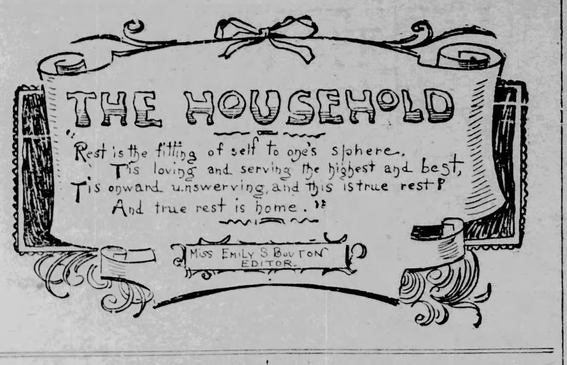
DON'T FORGET That the price you have to pay is only Fifteen Cents. That for this you get Six Pieces, not one. That the quality of this Sheet Music is the best. That the music is sent to any address, postpaid. That all the little details are up to the standard. That the vocal pieces have full piano accompaniments. That the instrumental pieces give the bass as well as melody. That this is sheet music equal to any published. ALSO, DON'T FORGET to make your selection at once, to send us the order, and to tell your friends about this great SHEET MUSIC OFFER.

No.	Voice and Piano or Organ.	
2.	Annie's Love Duet	Jos. Winters
4.	Esther's Lullaby. Slumber song	G. Meaker
5.	Thinking of Home and Mother	A. M. Cohen
8.	Flossie. Waltz song	A. M. Cohen
10.	The Sweetest Song	L. Denza
12.	The Bridge. Words by Longfellow	Carew
14.	An Outcast. Character song	J. J. Ellis
18.	Ben Bolt, of "Trilby" fame	N. Kneass
19.	'E Dunno Where 'E Are. Comic	F. Epiet
21.	Keep the Horseshoe Over the Door	Skelly
23



OUR MOCKING BIRD, "PETER."

From Reflections from a Sulky Plow Beam,
Toward Sun-Down.

Cheerful, earnest mocking bird,
Sweet thy song as ever heard;
Notes from "Dixie and "La Gloire,"
Carkle, crow, coo, trill and quiver,
These and more within a year!
What will be thy repertoire
When above Life's brimming river,
Under skies more soft and clear,
Zephyr-swayed on lithesome bough,
Thou shalt sing to us as now.

So? Too much of earth in this?
What know heavenly spirtes of bliss
But the growth in grace and taste,
Mastery through apt endeavor,
Power to judge and estimate?
Tell me thy inquiring breast
Yearns to-day to hush forever?
Nought befits the future state
Save the derzon's sighs and hymns?
Then give back my childhood's dreams,

Thou canst read, for thou canst copy
Close, defying microscopy;
Think, for see that perkinsh pose
Cogitating some suggestion;
Feel, for list that tender tone
All that human passion knows.
Hast a soul then? That's a question
Left to Dr. Owl to con.
Grant him angel choirs are sweeter
We should miss the, rich-toned "P ter."

D. F. DE WOLF.

Sugar Creek Farm, Ga.

OF GREAT INTEREST

IS THE COMING MEETING OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN.

They Desire to Give Unity of Thought and Purpose to Woman's Work in All Ways.

I have many times spoken of the fact that never before has there existed in historical times so many organizations conducted upon different and widely varied lines for the improvement of the human race. In all civilized countries they are multiplying. Not only this, but they are placed upon a broader basis than ever before. Even those which are purely for what is called charity, regard the future of such as are aided by the bestowal of what is needed to satisfy physical wants. It is no longer wholly alms-giving, but it also comprehends character-making, the inducing in the recipient of a self-respect that leads to self-dependence.

Passing from those efforts which are directed chiefly to diminishing human misery, through material means, and we come to the many societies organized for mental training, for advancement in intellectual pursuits such as will give a greater breadth of thought, and an increased power of accomplishment. There are also those among women whose especial aim is to forward various reforms tending to improve the condition of all womanhood, and hence of all humanity.

These various societies in which women are the chief workers have grown in strength and numbers during the last few years to an extent undreamed of by those who have given no thought to the matter. Perhaps in this fact lies, in part, the explanation of the growing complexity in women's lives, for there are few who do not become interested to some extent in this outside work devoted to self-culture, or to the carrying out of humanitarian purposes.

It is significant of the growth of a perception of higher truth, that several years ago, I do not now recall how many, the conviction came that to obtain the best results from all this movement, it was necessary to unify effort, and it was to bring about this unification that the National and International Councils of Women were formed. They were not established in order to take from the individuality of any society, but to produce, has been said elsewhere, "a republic of ideas," a brotherhood of thought, in which whatever is for good, whatever may be for the advancement of one line of work, may be utilized for all.

The subject is of especial interest at this time, because of the near approach of the annual meeting of the National organization in Boston, the first part of December. There will then be gathered women who have world-wide reputations for fine work in the various directions to which each has directed special attention. Miss Willard, who was the first president of this National organization is to be present, and others whose names are mentioned elsewhere in the paper, all intent upon forwarding whatever seems likely to promote the betterment of the world through the efforts of wives, mothers, sisters and daughters. They believe that in co-operation lies the highest success; that the greatest possibilities, as I said before, may be realized by unified effort. This meeting together, this consulting as to what is for the best interests of all, this bringing to bear upon great questions involved in these movements forward, the combined thought of these strong intellects which have learned to cope with difficulties, cannot fail to bring splendid results.

The women in the United States have to-day much for which to be thankful. Opportunities for education, for remunerative work have multiplied and are multiplying, while there is a growing disposition to recognize their right to take part in making the government under which they live. It is true that all the recent effort in California seems to have been for naught, but it was a defeat brought about, not by the better class of men, not by the wiser thought of the people, but because the liquor dealers banded together to defeat the movement, and, by means which I need not dwell upon, secured their object. In the not far distant future the change will come, however, and meanwhile all women may rejoice that in their hands to-day rests so much power and influence; that life wears so much brighter aspect to women generally than it did in years gone by.

We who do not join in the coming meeting, may well, therefore, send glad thoughts of sympathy and encouragement to those who will be there. They will represent directly 700,000 women who are members of the various organizations to be united in Council, and indirectly, many thousands more who are equally interested in efforts towards "the overthrow of all forms of ignorance and injustice, and to the application of the golden rule to society, custom and law."

While we send God speed to all who gather from the "four corners" of our country to consult together, there remains work for the stay-at-homes which is equally important. Perhaps some of you will remember those words of Lowell about the little things:

"It may be glorious to write
Thoughts that shall glad the two or three
High souls, like those far stars that come in sight
Once in a century.

"But better far it is to speak
One simple word, which now and then
Shall waken their free nature in the weak
And friendless sons of men;

"To write some earnest verse or line,
Which, seeking not the praise of art,
Shall make a clearer faith and manhood shine
In the untutored heart."

It is glorious to be a leader in good works, but it is no less glorious to quietly do what is brought to the hand to do, in the way of smoothing the path of the weak and weary, though the world may know it not. We all have our places and our work, and not one of us can tell what relation they may bear to the future, humble though they seem today. And so we may rejoice with exceeding great joy, if we fill our places, if we do our work, so well as to merit the approval of that Divine Self which is within each and all.

EMILY S. BOUTON.

THE BROWNS.

The little Pink Leaves gave aparty
And invited the Yellows and Reds;
"The Browns are too awfully common!"
They said, a-shaking their heads.

But there came an hour in the frost time
When the party-folk, all in a wink,
Were turned to the dingiest color
That ever a mortal could think.

Yet they pranced up and down in the sunshine,
Those former Pinks, Yellows and Reds;
"We Browns are so aristocratic!"
They said, a-tossing their heads.

—Emma C. Dowd, Youth's Companion.

OUR COSY CORNER.

THE AUTUMN BRINGS THOUGHTS OF THE COMING WINTER.

Friends Gather Together to Talk Matters Over—Some Pertinent Questions to Answer.

Parties where there is usually more freedom of conduct allowed than usual, it may be well for the girls who read The Blade, to give a little thought to the subject treated of by one of their M. G. R. friends who "for this occasion only" signs herself Birdie:

Advising is such a delightful way to forget one's own faults, that it is the one thing that is more blessed to give than receive. Knowing this, and too, that it is always at a discount, I am, nevertheless, bold enough to venture a few words to the girls.

Now, in the very first place, I have all the confidence in the world in you. You all mean to be good and sweet, but all the world isn't so lenient in its judgment of you. People do not look down into your hearts at the intention, but judge of it by acts and results. What I wish to speak of is I once heard a young man say: "Girls are so silly, after you have called on one a few times you may put your arm around her if you want to," and this young man wasn't a "rough" either, and never would have thought of doing what he mentioned.

The men who will take advantage of a girl who will allow too much familiarity, are most exacting in their requirements when the question of taking to themselves a wife comes up, and it is not from the ranks of "gay girls" that men, true or false, will choose their wives.

Remember, your pure heart, and your love are treasures above everything else in the world, and would you scatter your caresses so freely that they become common and cheap? I do not mean that you should become selfish of them at home, or with those who need, don't you see? I would not have them robbed?

I have always admired lilies, pure, proud, golden-hearted lilies, seeming to say: "You may admire me, do not touch." Violets are sweet, nestling with such modesty among the green leaves, and the rose is very blushing and brilliant. But, girls, be lilies, sweet, pure lilies. It's all right to be roses, and very sweet to be violets, but it's a thousand times better to be lilies. Still, if you think they are too cold, be sure you are violets.

May whispered to each patient field,
And breathed a vow to every vine;
And then the Sun her pledges sealed
With Nature's mystic countersign.

Fulfilled, the promise stands revealed!
O blessed stalk! O happy vine!
Whose grains enclose, whose clusters yield
The Sacramental Bread and Wine.

The question from Mary R. Chaffee, of Utah, as to whether women have ever invented anything of any account, is answered by the following extracts under the direction of the commissioner of patents, from whom it can be obtained. According to this information, one American woman in 32,500 is an inventor. Most of the patents taken out by them are labor saving devices for the household.

The first patent issued to a woman was to Mary Kies (residence not given) in 1809. Since that time the inventive faculty of women has been exerted in many ways; 27 per cent of these patents taken out by women are connected with clothing or toilet preparations; 7 per cent with medicine and surgery; 4 per cent with ornamental designs and toys; 44 per cent with household appliances, and the remaining 18 per cent must be classified as miscellaneous, as they comprise nearly everything from a submarine telescope and lamp to a device for killing mosquitoes scientifically.

The most amusing thing in the list is a washing machine worked by a shaft, lever and fulcrum something like a walking beam of an engine used on boats. At the two extremities of the walking beam are fitted up seats on which the busy mother can place two of her children and let them enjoy the delights of "teetering" for hours at a time, the process meantime doing the family washing. The only objection to this is that as soon as the children discover that it is not altogether play, they lose their desire for "teetering."

Mrs. W. J. T. is about to celebrate her wedding anniversary, and asks what form of entertainment will be best; the style of invitation to be used; what especial reference to the occasion for this entertainment shall be made, and lastly, the all important question—"what shall I wear?"

Your form of entertainment will depend upon whether you are to have a family party, in which case a dinner is generally considered the proper thing, or a general reception for all of your friends. These can be combined, the family dinner being followed by an evening reception.

The usual form of invitation to dinner or reception is used, with the date of the original wedding and of the present anniversary in the lower right and left hand corners of the card.

As many as possible of the guests who were present at the wedding should be at the anniversary, and the clergyman who performed the ceremony should be invited to make a brief address and prayer, unless the whole affair is strictly a formal one.

The bride and groom must wear as much of their wedding attire as they have preserved, and boxes of wedding cake may be presented to the guests. As a general thing, the least formality there is upon these occasions, the more pleasure is enjoyed by those present.

This correspondent asks about the boxes for the wedding cake that is to be distributed among the friends. These can be obtained in any style of paper, silk, satin, or silver, and of any shape. The heart-shaped boxes are considered most suitable by many, but I heard of one bride who was an expert card player and who considered "diamonds" her mascot, so had the boxes for her wedding cake made diamond shape.

These boxes are lined with waxed paper, or silk, and the cake cut to fit in them. They can be filled and made ready the day before, to send away immediately after the wedding. This is frequently done at the bride's home, but the caterer who provides the cake will fill the boxes also if desired.

The invitations will cost according to what is required. If a church card and at home card are enclosed it will, of course, be more expensive than a simple announcement card. You should go to some firm that does such work and consult with them in regard to that and for the latest style of cards, etc. The boxes cost anywhere from 3 to 4 cents each for paper, to $10 and $20 each for the silver ones. The expense of these can be augmented, if you wish, by having the monogram of the bride and groom in gold, or precious stones.

By a curious coincidence a letter was handed me while writing about marriages (which pre-suppose perfect bliss) from one who has found that in her case she had expected too much, and now she agrees with Mrs. Whitney that:

To all mortal blisses
From comfits to kisses,
There's sure to be something by way of alloy.
Each new expectation,
Brings fresh aggravation,
And a doubtful amalgam's the best of our joy.

You may sit on your "tuffet,"
Yes, cushion and stuff it,
And provide what you please, if you don't fancy "whey."
But before you can eat it,
There'll be—I repeat it,
Some sort of black spider to come in the way.

Will Mrs. M. E. T. please accept the thanks of the editor for her kindly wishes, and send her full address to The Blade, Cozy Corner Department?

If Eva T. could see the blurred condition of her communication when it reached this office, she would understand why we are obliged to insist upon all letters being writen in ink.

Mrs. J. E. feels that she has not been used quite well because her communication, written on a postal card, was not used, and reminds the editor that "in these hard times it is difficult for some people to obtain paper, envelop and stamp every time they wish to send a word or two to the paper." It is not that the editor especially and personally insists upon "paper, envelope and stamp," but the matter written on a postal card can not be used by the compositor unless it is re-written, on paper, by the editor, whose time is too fully occupied to allow her to do this, as a general thing.

If our friends who are unacquainted with the workings of a newspaper office, would only take the editor's word that these requirements are necessary, it would enable them to see their articles in print much oftener than they do.

E. B. Niles is assured that Miss Bouton's new book will contain a photograph of herself, and the orders for it are to be sent to the Arena Publishing Co., Boston, Mass. The price will be $1 in cloth binding, and 50 cents in paper.

Alice has won her wager, as Miss Bouton did issue a number of years ago a pamphlet telling women how to preserve beauty and cure defects of the complexion. It contained recipes for simple and harmless preparations, and instructions for the care of the skin. The title of the book is "Pretty Is as Pretty Does." It can be obtained only at this office.

To make an end of selfishness is happiness.—Imitation of Buddha.

THE COOK'S DEPARTMENT.

What Shall We Have for Dinner?

"What shall we have for dinner?" Do not ask me that again.
I am so sick and weary of that merciless refrain,
It's meat, potatoes and dessert—dessert, potatoes, meat,
Till I think a Chinese diet might be a joy and treat.

"What shall we have for dinner?" I hear seven times a week,
And now it would be a relief to have it asked in Greek.
Why is it people must have food? Housekeeping would be sweet,
But for that one returning thought: "What can I get to eat?"

If we were like the fairies, and could thrive on honeydew,
This world would be a Paradise, with pleasures ever new.
E'en Jupiter the pampered did not bother and entreat
The gooddesses untiringly for "Something good to eat."

Oh, is there really nothing new that's edible? I think
Our learned modern scientists, instead of wasting ink
On "Survival of the Fittest," and all such themes, might give
Some hints for the survivors, who indeed must eat to live.

For now not only through the day, but in my dreams at night,
I try to plan some odd menus, the palate to delight,
And still my tortured brain can think of nothing else to eat
But meat, potatoes and dessert—dessert, potatoes, meat.

By the time this reaches the Cook's friends, the Thanksgiving dinners will have been eaten and for a few hours at least no one will have any desire to read recipes, or even to think of eating, but we all know that "to-morrow" will come, and with it, the same necessity for three meals a day.

If you were fortunate enough to have a sufficiently large dinner party on Thanksgiving Day, you will not need to worry about using the left-overs that look so reproachfully at you when you think of having a change of diet, but if your family was small and your turkey was large, you will probably reach that stage of desperation, before you are done with eating leavings, that a friend of the Cook experienced when she removed the quills from her hat because they reminded her of chickens.

Some things can be used very nicely for the second day's dinner. For instance, if you have part of a can of tomatoes you can make with them an excellent soup in this way:

Cream Tomato Soup.

Cook the tomatoes till very soft, mash all large pieces or pass the tomatoes through a sieve, and when boiling hot add ½ teaspoonful of soda. While it is foaming, stir in sweet milk sufficient for the quantity of soup needed. Season with salt and pepper and serve at once. Do not let this stand near the fire after adding the milk, or it will curdle.

Is there any cold fish left? Prepare that for a breakfast or luncheon in this manner:

Fish Turbot.

Make a sauce of 1 tablespoonful of butter; 1 tablespoonful of flour rubbed smooth, 1 pint of milk. When the milk is boiling, add gradually, the butter, flour and a little salt and stir continually till thick and smooth. Chop the fish and place in buttered cups, a layer of fish and a layer of the sauce. Cover the top with fine bread crumbs and bits of butter. Set the cups in a pan of hot water and bake in a moderate oven till brown.

Cold mashed potatoes can be used for croquettes of potato puff. One cupful will make six croquettes. The turnip, or celery, or other vegetables left from dinner, even if there be but very little, will be sufficient for a vegetable soup. In fact, everything, even to the bones, can be utilized so that nothing need be wasted, and if care is taken to have these dishes look inviting they will never be recognized as being "second-hand goods."

BLADE FANCY WORK CLUB

Promises to Equal the Merry-Go-Rounds in Interest and Numbers.

The new members admitted to club privileges this week were: Mrs. Lafe Day, Ind. and "Rose Madder," Canada.

The editor has to thank Mrs. Conrad for a very pretty book-mark, and is sure the club will join her in a sincere regret that this "C. M." is not in usually good health just at present.

Rose Madder:—Thanks for pleasant letter; your wishes shall be respected.

Mrs. Newton—Original designs are of course preferred, though others will be accepted if they are new and suitable.

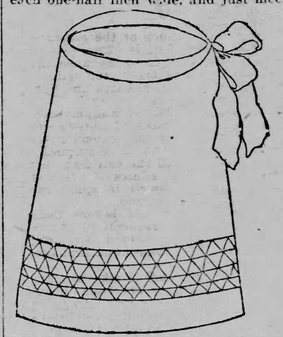
A. A. Koller:—Your contributions are very acceptable indeed.

"Grandma" slipped in to-day to ask for directions for knitting bands for infant's use. Can any of the members oblige her with them?

Mrs. Newton was our first "speaker" to-day, telling us how to make a very pretty

Fancy Apron.

Of cambric, muslin, or any fine goods, make an apron of the required length, having as many tucks as you prefer, each one-half inch wide, and just meet-

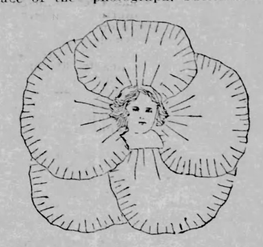


ing. Cut each tuck at intervals of an inch, from the fold to the stitching, and sew together the corners of each of these inch pieces on the under side of the tuck. The result will be a pretty trimming of pointed scallops which is more easily ironed than plain tucking. It is prettier if the tucks are cut so that the points of the scallops alternate in each row.

The new members took the floor now. Mrs. L. D. proving that a well-worn subject had not yet been exhausted by showing us a new design for a

Photograph Holder.

Get a stamped doiley in the shape of a pansy; if it is stamped in colors, so much the prettier. Button-hole the edges with long and short stitches, and cut a hole in the center to reveal the face of the photograph, button-holing



this edge also. Cover a piece of card board of the same size and shape with cotton-batting, and then tack the doiley to it, make a plain piece for the back with edge button-holed.

Put in the photograph and over-hand the front and back together. A good size is about four or five inches across the flower.

Rose Madder gave us the "formula" for making a

Good Luck Pennwiper.

Take a wish-bone and with red sealing-wax model a head on it, not forgetting to make a good-sized nose, and while the wax is soft, stick in two black beads for eyes. Model feet in the same manner.

Put on any number of petticoats of

cloth or silk, having the outside one of a very gay color.

Fold a little shawl neatly across the shoulders, put a little black velvet hood on the head, and behold! you have a charming old lady!

Absence of Selfishness.

The secret of joy, of abounding life lies in one thing—the absence of selfishness. The secret of unhappiness lies in being selfish. The crude and ordinary conception of the term does not begin to exhaust its meaning. Well-bred people are not selfish in a visible way, in material things, simply because they are well bred, if for no other reason. But an individual may always give the polite consideration to others, be ever generous to others in gifts, swift to relieve suffering, may go out of his way to do many a kind thing, and still be in a spiritual sense intolerably and fatally selfish in the way of self reverence or everlastingly thinking about himself. He sees a kind act done to his neighbor. "No one would do such an act for me," he repines. "Think of the devotion that B has in his misfortunes; friends ready at every turn to serve him. If I were dying no one would come to me and do such things. I have no friends who really care for me."

How this sinful meditation may masquerade as sensitiveness, and may felicitate itself as being very delicate and refined; but, all the same, it is a trait most inimical to any true happiness, any radiance of joy. It is a trait made up of the twofold elements of selfishness—a self-love and jealousy: no one is ever happy or joyous until he can take the good of others to be his own; until he can be honestly glad that if his neighbor is in trouble, consolation and aid pour in to mitigate it, instead of proclaiming that he has no such of friends. If he has not, the chances are that it is his own fault.—Boston Budget.

Household Hints.

Too small a figure in wall paper destroys the effect.

A bread cloth should always be sweet and clean, and never used for any other purpose.

Discolorations from bruises may be prevented or very much helped by applying as quickly as possible a slice of raw beef, or a cloth wrung out in hot water.

Lamps should be kept filled with oil. It is bad for the wick and burner when the oil left over from one evening's reading is made to do duty second time. The tank should be filled again.

Mattresses are now often made in three pieces. A physician observes that thus made, a mattress is more durable, because the position of the sections can be changed from time to time and the bed kept more even—the wear and tear coming continuously on any one part, which may have to bear the heaviest burden. For surgical patients this form of mattress is especially convenient.

Housekeepers who have too much principle to throw away stale bread and who can not bring their families to relish bread pudding, will find they can put their loaves to practical use by making what an experienced mother calls "bread omelet." Cut the bread in very thin slices—and there is nothing that can be utilized so that nothing need be wasted, and if care is taken to have these dishes look inviting they will never be recognized as being "second-hand goods."

NATIONAL COUNCIL

OF WOMEN WILL HOLD A MOST IMPORTANT MEETING.

Some Account of What is to Be Done There—Some of the Notables to Be Present.

The National Council of Women will hold its annual executive board meeting the 2d, 3d and 4th of December, in the Y. M. C. A. hall in Boston.

Meetings of the National Council always mean something of more than ordinary interest. The coming annual sessions will include one or more noteworthy meetings.

Among previous meetings and conferences under the auspices of the council, one naturally adverts to the World's Congress of representative women in Chicago, at the time of the Columbian Exposition. This gathering of prominent women from many different countries served as a grand introduction to the series of World's Congresses. Its sessions lasted seven days, and its programme contained the names of more than three hundred speakers, the majority of whom were women of national reputation in their special fields of work. This assemblage of women, including members from the national councils of England, France, Germany, Italy and other countries, was brought together by invitation of the national council of the United States.

At the first triennial meeting of the council in Washington, in 1891, seven organizations composed it. The session at this time was of a week's duration, 38 associations reported through fraternal delegates, and the international council was represented by its American officers.

During the exposition in Atlanta, in 1895, the council held a conference, which lasted six days, as part of the Congress of Women.

Among the subjects brought before these meetings were the Red Cross movement, practical philanthropy, Florence Crittenden's missions, woman's work as minister and missionary, woman's place in the government, social economics, and many others of equal interest and importance.

The notable meeting in New York city of a year ago, the pioneer reunion held on the date of Elizabeth Cady Stanton's 80th birthday, was likewise under the auspices of the National Council. This unique gathering brought together for the recognition of the younger generation a large number of the white-haired pioneers in woman's work along all lines—educational, philanthropic, reformatory and many others. The largest opera house in New York city was filled with the guests. Greetings came from distinguished people all over the world. A volume including the full account and full significance of the gathering would prove most interesting reading to a new generation.

The Countess of Aberdeen cannot return from British Columbia in time for the forthcoming annual executive meeting of the National Council of Women, which will be held in the Y. M. C. A. hall, Boston, December 2d, 3d and 4th. But the International Council will be ably represented by Mrs. May Wright Sewall, its vice president at large, and former president of the National Council of the United States. The Woman's Council of Canada will be represented by its corresponding secretary, Mrs. Willoughby Cummings, and also by Mrs. Archibald, president of the Halifax Local Council.

Miss Frances E. Willard, the first president of the National Council, is expected to add the exceeding interest of her presence and her words to this occasion.

Among other well known women, whose faces and voices will be welcome, will be the Rev. Anna Howard Shaw, the vice president of the council, and so widely known as an able and scholarly orator.

Mrs. Rachael Foster Avery, former corresponding secretary of the council, whose name is a synonym for honest, solid, practical work, will represent her own special department in the present council, that which relates directly to the welfare of the home.

Mrs. J. Ellen Foster is also expected to be present at these sessions, and her speaking everywhere is characterized by earnestness that captures the attention, and by logic that convinces the mind.

The National Women's Republican Association, of which Mrs. Foster is president, will also be represented by its able and charming secretary, Mrs. Emily Chase.

The Women's Relief Corps will be ably represented by its national president, Mrs. Agnes Hitt, and by Mrs. Kate Brownlee Sherwood, chairman of the committee on patriotic instruction, who will speak on the subject of the higher citizenship.

Many other women of prominence will attend these meetings and present topics of interest and value.

THE BABY.

When morning broke and baby came
The house did scarcely seem the same—
As just before. The very air
Grew fragrant with the essence rare
Of a celestial garden, where
The angels, breathless, leaned to hear
The youthful mother's fervid prayer
To God, to guard her first-born care.
And with what diligence each ear
Did listen, as her lips did frame
The helpless little stranger's name—
When baby came!

When darkness came and baby died,
The misty grief that fell belied
The transient joy that filled the room
But just before, where brooding gloom
Now dumbly spoke the baby's doom.
We hid away the little things
Woven by Nature's matchless loom—
A woman's hands! The amber bloom
Waxed dimmer on the finch's wings.
The flowers, too, in sorrow vied.
As if kind Nature drooped and cried—
When baby died!

—Charles Gordon Rogers.

The Orange-Eating Problem.

A young lady said the other day that she hated oranges because one had come between her and her lover. He had called on her one evening, and after sitting awhile had produced a couple of bright Florida oranges out of his pocket and suggested that each eat one. She now says that she cannot drive out of her mind the sight of his nose, cheeks and chin dripping with juice, and he has been whispering something horribly similar about her. Evidently you cannot love a girl and a citrus aurantium at the same time.

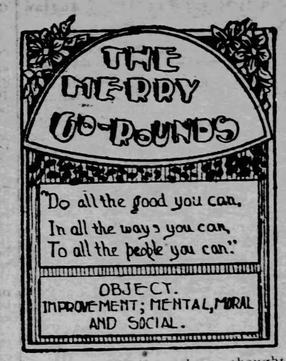
One of the best remedies for an orange—a sort of whipping the devil around the stump—is to use a spoon. The directions advise cutting the orange carefully into halves, taking care to do so across the grain, so that a spoon can slip in readily.

A gentleman who has lived for years in the American countries in which the orange grows, is waging a war against the slovenly manner of eating the orange up and serving it on the table. In such a case he recommends that a very sharp knife, one as keen as a razor, be used, and the fruit cut into slices infinitesimally thin, and built, layer about with pulverized sugar.

Since the spoon has been relegated out of modern civilization almost, a fork is used to eat it with. In southern Europe the peasants always eat fruit in its natural shape, and never think of treating it to doses of sugar, salt or other seasoning. Around Naples and in Malaga the people bite a hole in the orange, suck out the juice and then throw the orange away. Small American people often do the same, but of course the American must try his hand at improving nature, so he put a lump of sugar in it. An orange planter thinks such a thing desecration.

On board ship a unique way is always a popular way to do anything. There they take an orange, and, with a very sharp knife, cut off a slice of skin across the top. This is placed below the orange and skewered by a fork into position. Holding the fork in the left hand, the knife cuts down the peeling, which indifferently falls off or hangs down.

Then the same knife cuts the juicy meat thus left exposed into small portions, which are conveyed on the point of the blade to the mouth—one of the cases on record where a knife enters the mouth by common consent of the fashionable world. The small quantity of juice that flows down falls on the false bottom of the orange, and thus the hand is protected. The orange never eats better than in this way, and it is also, as may be observed, freed from all untidiness.—Pittsburg Dispatch.



Subject for November thought: "What are the four most important qualifications for a successful and satisfactory business career."

Miss Prudence has this week received several letters which indicate that her remarks in regard to the lack of interest in the question suggested were appreciated by some of her class. Two of the state presidents have written telling of the lack of material sent them for their monthly reports, and one of them asks: "What is the use of having state presidents if the members ignore them entirely?"

No use at all. The idea was given you so that the states could have their respective work given at the same time, thus enabling members of each to see at a glance the improvement made by its members. It was thought that there was a feeling of state pride among the members of the M. G. R.'s that would incite them to send good reports.

But the presidents cannot do this work without the assistance of members from their state, and so, unless a different feeling is shown in the matter, the office of president, for the M. G. R.'s, will be abolished at the commencement of the new year.

Another plan that was arranged for the benefit and pleasure of these young people, and which has, in some cases at least, failed of its purpose, is the exchange of addresses for private correspondence. It has come to the knowledge of Miss Prudence that this trust has been abused and the correspondence has resulted in anything but a benefit to both parties. It was only after much urging that it was decided to allow this correspondence, and it was with the understanding that all who availed themselves of the privilege were on their honor to make it an interchange of opinions on such subjects as would be helpful to all concerned.

Comment is unnecessary, and it is also unnecessary to say that if any more unpleasantness is discovered in connection with this exchange of addresses, that the practice will at once be stopped.

Asking for admission to-day are an Old-fashioned Girl from Missouri; Miss Katie, of Kentucky; Eadie, C. J. Kirkby, Calhounr, Margaret, No. 2, and A. J. Davis. The information requested by these correspondents will be sent them soon.

In the report from Ohio upon the September subject, Regulator and Elwyn seem to have been the only correspondents. Regulator thinks that the most progress has been made along the lines of Christianity. He touches upon educational, musical, scientific, and other subjects showing the improvement made in each. Elwyn says:

Where a nation has made great progress along many lines, it is not easy to determine the line of greatest advancement, but the progress which has been made in the method of adjusting national disputes, seems to affect the general prosperity of our nation more than any other line of progression.

Invalid, Lera, Lenore and Calhounr, send sympathy and a welcome to Jew. Lera writes a nice little letter, but she is just a little careless about her capital letters and her punctuation marks. Orange Blossom asks if Photographer's name is the same as his trade; if so she would like to talk to him as she is interested in that subject. Miss Katie is a true Kentucky girl, in that she loves horses, and loves to ride them, and there is no doubt she comes under the head of the "handsome women" for which, with the "fast horses," Kentucky is celebrated.

An Old-fashioned Girl from Missouri, assures us that she likes our motto very much and endeavors to direct her life by it as nearly as possible. Ernest Anderson is not "quite sure that our lives are what God intended them to be," and says that his "highest ambition" is to become an orator. We wish him success. Sunflower Kid thinks our lives are what we make them and suggests that we learn to look on the bright side of life so that we should have "no cause for faultfinding with ourselves and others." He closes his letter with this excellent thought: "Our presence should be like the springtime—it should lift those who are despondent into the sunshine."

Forsaken sends us a little note from the hospital and makes a request that should be granted by the M. G. Rs., for of what use are we as an organization if we do not help our friends when they are sick or in trouble? Here is his letter:

I have not visited the M. G. Rs. for so long that most of you are strangers to me. I see only two of the old members present. I am sick in a hospital, and have felt very little like a Merry-Go-Rounder, but please give me an easy chair near Invalid, until I make the acquaintance of some of the new members.

I agree with Gold Standard concerning "social parties." I never knew any one becoming better from attending dances, but the reverse a great many times. Some writer has said: "One is not always known by the company they keep, but by the company they can not keep."

What has become of Nana, Yours Truly, Sister Phebe, Sweet Sixteen, Red Rose and Old Bach?

I agree with Faith concerning unknown correspondents; some of the best and most interesting letters I have received from some of the M. G. Rs. with whom I have became acquainted through correspondence.

Concerning women riding bicycles, I think it becoming. I had rather see a woman riding a bicycle than riding horseback. Poor Timothy, did some pretty wheelwoman give you the mitten? Will some of the M. G. Rs. write to me?

C. J. K. sends a long article on Predestination and Foreordination which can not be used in this department. While the idea is to make the Column helpful in all ways to the young folks, it will not be expedient to enter into any long discussion of such matters as above mentioned. It would create unpleasant feelings and do no good whatever.

Eddie must understand that incorrect spelling will not be tolerated in the M. G. R. letters, even though it be done purposely, as it evidently was in his letter. If you have anything to write, write it correctly, and let it stand on its merits, and do not attempt to be witty by mis-spelling your words. I. F., of Iowa, wishes to be known hereafter as Jesse.

Our Egyptian Friend sends the following bit of information which will be new to some of us, and interesting to all:

Miss Prudence: Please say to the M. G. Rs. that the reason I chose the name Egyptian Friend is this: In the early history of Illinois there was a time when there was a great famine in all the country surrounding southern Illinois. In that portion of the state there was an abundance of corn, and as there were no railroads, the people in all the surrounding country for many miles came in wagons to buy corn. Southern Illinois thus became known as "Egypt," and its inhabitants are called "Egyptians." I appended the word Friend because I consider myself a friend to all the M. G. Rs.

Now, there is a man who had something to say, and said it in a few words. His writing, spelling and punctuation were such as delight the heart and the eye of a compositor, and move the editor to say most heartily—come again.

Daisy, your letter in the Blade may invite some indignant as well as sympathetic replies; however, I will gladly proffer you the latter as your letter certainly displays a good intent on your part; it is simply that your tastes are educated beyond your present environments, like those of thousands of other girls. While I'm a friend to a part of the pleasant part of rural life, I will say the friction with the outside world, even in a small city, develops much sooner in us whatever talents we possess, as our education is not confined to a school room. Daisy, don't sit down and allow yourself to rust out, study yourself well and find out what you are the best fitted for, then try with a vim to prove to people your ability in whatever line your calling is, should it be head cook or a music teacher. Remember it isn't only how much you know, but how much you impress on other minds of your capability, that invites success to your pathway in this life. Having decided upon your mission, do not appear too bold, or too timid in letting people see what you know about it, but always support an easy dignity, and never lose your self-respect. I often wonder if people have to accept their seeming fate regardless of how these unpleasant surroundings grate on our make up.

Each shining snowflake lets a shadow fall,
As to the earth it softly sinks to rest;
So may the whitest, sweetest souls of all
Seem sometimes wrong to those who know them best.

JACK FROST'S PRANKS.

Oh! a jolly soul is "Old Jack Frost,"
A jolly old soul is he!
He plays his pranks, whatever the cost,
As he lies around in glee.

He stealthily prowls around the house,
Peeping in all the cracks,
And though he's as sly as any mouse,
He deals tremendous whacks!

He breaks our pitchers, bursts our pails,
Then laughs at our dismay,
Little cares he for domestic gales
If only he has "full sway."

The plumber and he are "chums by foul,"
So he bursts the watermains;
Of the situation they have control,
While the plumber hoards his gains.

He pinches the ears, and bites the toes
Of children at their play,
Then merrily on his way, he goes
In search of other prey.

All this he does, and then as if
Our favor to regain,
He takes his brush and "in a jiff"
He paints our window pane.

The loveliest ferns you ever saw
He forms with greatest skill,
Diamonds and stars without a flaw;
This Jack without a Jill.

Oh! a famous fellow is "Old Jack Frost,"
A famous fellow is he!
We'll vote for him, and no chance be lost
To give him "Three times three."

A. M. WALDRON.

DOOR-STEP NEIGHBORS.

An Insect Tragedy Described Vividly.

As I took my seat upon the door step I started into flight a black wasp, upon whose doings I had evidently been intruding. This wasp was about an inch in length. Its wings were pale brown and its body jet black, with sundry small yellowish spots about the thorax. But its most conspicuous feature, and one which would ever fix the identity of the creature, was the long, slender, wirelike waist, occupying a quarter of the length of its entire body.

In a moment or two the wasp had returned and stood at the mouth of the shallow pit. Eyeing me intently for a space, and satisfied that there was nothing to fear, she dived into the hollow and began to excavate, turning round and round as she gnawed the earth at the bottom, and shoveling it out with her spike legs. Now and then she would

back out of the burrow to reconnoitre, and her alert attitude at such times was very amusing—her antennæ drooping towards the burrow and in incessant motion; the abdomen on its long wire stem bobbing up and down at regular intervals, accompanied by a flipping motion of the wings; the short fore legs, one or both, upraised with comical effect.

As the tunnel was deepened a new method of excavation was employed. It has now reached a depth of an inch, only the extremity of the insect's body appearing, and the two hindermost legs clinging to surrounding earth for purchase. The dull digging is now accompanied by a continual buzzing noise, resembling that produced by a bluebottle fly held captive between one's fingers. At intervals of about ten or fifteen seconds the wasp would quickly back out of the burrow, bringing a load of sand, which it held between the back of the jaws and its thorax, sustained at the sides by the two upraised fore legs. After a moment's pause with this burden, the insect would make a sudden short darting flight of a foot or more in a quick circuit, hurling the sand a yard or more distant from the burrow. At the end of about fifteen minutes the burrow was sunk to the depth of an inch and a half, the wasp entirely disappearing, and indicated only by the continuous buzzing.

At this time the luncheon hour having arrived, I was obliged to pause in my investigations, and, in order to be able to locate the burrow in the event of its obliteration by the wasp before my return, I scratched a circle in the hard dirt, the hole being at its exact center.

Upon my return, an hour later, I was met with a surprise. The ways of the digger-wasps of various species were familiar, but I now noted a feature of wasp engineering which indeed seems to await its chronicler, as I find no mention of it by the wasp historians.

At the exact center of my circle, in place of a cavity, I now found a tiny pile of stones, supported upon a small stick and fragment of leaf, which had been first drawn across the opening.

This was evidently a mere temporary protection of the burrow, I reasoned, while the digger had departed in search of prey, and my surmise was soon proved to be correct, as I observed the wasp, with bobbing abdomen and flipping wings, zig-zagging about the vicinity. Presently disappearing beneath a small plaintain leaf, she quickly emerged, drawing behind her not a spider, but a big green caterpillar, nearly double her own length, and as large around as a slate-pencil—a peculiar, pungent, waspy-scented species of "puss-moth" larva, which is found on the elm, and with which I chanced to be familiar.

The victim being now ready for burial, the wasp sexton proceeded to open the tomb. Seizing one stone after another in her widely opened jaws, they were scattered right and left, when, with apparent ease and prompt despatch, the listless larva was drawn toward the burrow, into whose depths he soon disappeared. Then, after a short and suggestive interval, followed the emergence of the wasp, and the prompt filling in of the requisite earth to level the cavity, much as already described. A ter which the wasp took wing and disappeared, presumably bent upon a repetition of the performance elsewhere. But she had not simply buried this caterpillar victim, nor was the caterpillar dead, for these wasp cemeteries are in truth, living tombs, whose apparently dead inmates are simply sleeping, narcotized by the venom of the wasp sting, and thus designed to afford fresh living food for the young wasp grub, into whose voracious care they are committed.

By inserting my knife-blade deep into the soil in the neighborhood of this burrow I readily unearthed the buried caterpillar, and disclosed the ominous egg of the wasp firmly imbedded in its body. The hungry larva which hatches

News of the Week.

The Blade is a newspaper for free American citizens, and under the above head, aims to give first, those events which are the history and progress of the world for the week—those which every intelligent man needs to know and should know; second, all important political events; and lastly, the leading minor occurrences that possess interest to every educated and thinking reader.

OUR FOREIGN TRADE.

McKinley's Election Brings Prosperity to the World.

London, Nov. 28.—Representatives of The Associated Press have been making inquiries in various British and continental trade centers as to the effects upon trade already traceable to the result of the presidential election. Those inquiries have been made among the leading exporters at the American consulates and of the larger forwarding agents.

In England the increase in the number of invoices presented for authentication at all the consulates in the first week after the election of McKinley was more marked than during the second and third weeks. But, the increase for the second and third weeks over the same period in October was at many consulates over 60 per cent.

Among forwarding agents there is the general belief in good times abroad, many of them having since November made contracts for large amounts of cubic space. Exporters and large commission houses report greatly increased activity which they expect to continue for some time. American stocks of dry goods etc., having been allowed to fall very low. The winter buyers, due shortly, are expected to order heavily.

Ireland.

In Dublin the election of McKinley has been very cordially received by the exporters. There is everywhere noticeable a general expectation of improved trade during 1897. This feeling is based in part upon the assurance of a policy of continuity in monetary affairs and partly upon the indications of the past few weeks of returning prosperity in the United States. One large exporter, however, qualifies this generally held opinion by saying: "International trade is dependent upon so many fluctuating quantities that no absolutely safe predictions can be laid down as to the future."

France.

In Paris the increase in the shipments to the United States has been marked and considerable since the election. The indications in trade circles are that the exports during the next few months will be heavier than for a long time past. This arises partly from the fact that many orders for merchandise had been given by American importers conditional upon the election of Mr. McKinley and that a good many others had been withheld until the result was known. Another cause assigned for the actual and prospective increase in French trade with the United States is that there is a widespread anticipation in France of an increase in the tariff and it is thought wise to anticipate such an event by large shipments of French goods to the United States while the existing schedules remain in force. So far as can be judged by the expressions of exporters doing business through the United States consulate at Paris the satisfaction at McKinley's election which arises from his position on the currency question is somewhat tempered by the fear that it will result in tariff changes prejudicial to the interests of the French manufacturers and producers.

Germany.

In Germany more particularly in Frankfort, the defeat of the free silver coinage proposition has also been received with satisfaction. This is perhaps the more natural at Frankfort when it is remembered how largely American national, railway and industrial securities are held by all classes.

A leading exporter writes: "It is generally recognized here that the fiscal policy which shall most fully secure to American national finances permanence and stability and render the American people prosperous, will be the policy most conducive to a healthy and legitimate international commerce."

SUPERIOR IRON REGION.

True Story of the Revival in Michigan Mines.

Ishpeming, Mich., Nov. 25.—The outlook for the Lake Superior iron ore trade is unquestionably better than it was a few weeks ago, and it is undeniable that the prospects are steadily improving, but the situation is by no means so roseate as might be imagined from the perusal of newspaper dispatches announcing the opening of some mine which has been closed or the increasing of forces at properties already working.

For instance, Duluth dispatches of a week ago announced that the Franklin Rockefeller mines of the Mesaba district had just concluded a sale of 85,000,000 worth of iron ore, which would give employment to thousands of men during the winter. A sale amounting to the sum named would cover between 125,000 and 150,000 tons of ore, the exact amount depending upon the grade of the ore. At such a mine as the Mountain Iron, or the Mitchell, the amount of ore disposed of by Rockefeller could be taken out in a month by a single steam shovel worked double shifts, if no accidents were met with. Including train crews, steam shovel crews, laborers, strippers and others employed directly or indirectly on the work, it would keep 50 to 75 men busy for a whole month to get out 125,000 tons of ore from either of the mines named, under the most favorable circumstances.

All other properties which cannot get out their ore so cheaply, more men and a longer time would be required, but under any circumstances the employment given by a half million dollar ore order would be for a few hundred men until spring, and not for thousands. It is unfortunately true that some of the dispatches noting resumption of work in other ranges are also somewhat overdrawn.

One thing is absolutely certain, and that is that when business as a whole really does boom in this country, the demand for iron and steel will be so great that the Lake Superior ore output will be much greater than is anticipated by all except the longest headed and best informed men in the business, and if the boom is to be next spring, furnace men will not allow an all-rail haul of three to six hundred miles to stand between them and the filling of orders.

63-STORY BUILDING

Alleged to Be Projected in New York.

New York, Nov. 28.—According to the Evening World, plans are now drawn and negotiations well under way for the erection here of an office building 59 stories high, with a six-story cupola perched on top.

English capitalists, headed by Jacques and Welton, of Lancashire, who are said to have diverted vast sums of English money towards American investments, are backing the scheme, it is said, and in this case they say no less than $35,000,000 will be expended on the cloud-piercing structure.

It will be built at Fourth avenue and Twenty-fifth streets, and plans have been prepared by Chadwick & Wilber, architects. The paper prints a cut of the proposed building to add weight to the story.

In addition to the 59 stories there are to be seven sub-cellars and six stories in the cupola, so the total number of floors in the building will be 72.

The building is to be 108 feet square and 900 feet high, with a large central court, and there are to be 5,900 rooms, in addition to five large stores on the ground floor.

It is not stated whether the upper stories will be reached by elevators, airships or balloons.

THEOSOPHIST WIFE.

Prominent Montana Man Asks a Divorce on Peculiar Grounds.

Butte, Mont., Nov. 25.—George C. Fitschen, a prominent man of wealth, has commenced suit for divorce against his wife on the ground of desertion.

About a year ago Mrs. Fitschen fell a victim to theosophy, and discovered through her new religion that she had made a mistake in marrying Mr. Fitschen, and that her affinity was still waiting for her somewhere, so she left her home, and all inducements on the part of her husband have not been sufficient to get her to return.

She has also relinquished all claim to her husband's property.

A NOVEMBER BLIZZARD

Introduces Winter to the Western Country.

St. Paul, Nov. 28.—The wires continue to bring reports of the great blizzard which has been raging in the Dakotas and Northern Minnesota for the past three days. The storm is the worst known for many years. The following specials give some idea of the extent of the storm:

Red Lake Falls, Minn., Nov. 28.—Worst blizard this section ever saw. The snow which has fallen at inetrvals for several weeks has been piled into huge drifts by a high wind, and all traffic is suspended.

Fergus Falls, Minn., Nov. 28.—Heavy storm raging. Mercury at zero. Business suspended.

Moorehead, Minn., Nov. 28.—Raging blizzard since Thursday morning. Streets blocked. No trains and business at a standstill.

Fargo N. D., Nov. 28.—Storm still continues with even greater intensity. All wires west and north down. All Great Northern trains abandoned. The snow drifts in the streets here are ten feet high. It is the worst storm for five years.

Stephen, Minn., Nov. 28.—The worst storm ever seen here has been raging since Thursday morning; about two feet of snow has fallen this season and the storm has formed snow banks. Traveling and business of all kinds is at a standstill.

A special from Kulm, N. D., says it has snowed there almost continuously since October 31.

Omaha, Neb., Nov. 28.—Specials to the Bee from many points in Nebraska and South Dakota report a heavy snow and sleet storm accompanied by a high wind. In some places the loss to live stock will be heavy. About 100,000 sheep, besides many hogs and cattle are being fattened in Buffalo county, Nebraska. The temperature has fallen forty degrees in about 24 hours, and is still growing colder. Wires are down all over Nebraska and trains are running without telegraph. At Chamberlain, S. D., the thermometer was below zero, and a blizzard was raging.

St. Paul, Minn., Nov. 28.—An Aberdeen, S. D., special to the Dispatch says: The present storm has not been paralleled since the great blizzard of January 12, 1888. Drifts in the streets and on the railroad tracks are five and six feet deep

Railroading has been entirely abandoned until the storm breaks. A freight train on the Hastings & Dakota is in the terrific drifts near Bath station, and the Eureka accommodation is fast at Hill's View. A demoralized condition everywhere prevails. The loss to stock it is feared, will be great.

A Dispatch special from Mellette, N. D., says: The worst snow storm and blizzard through this section for years commenced Wednesday night. The trains are blocked, and snow drifts in the main street are 15 feet deep. The wagon roads are blocked, and stock will suffer greatly.

Denver, Col., Nov. 28.—With the exception of 1877, 1880 and 1887, yesterday was the coldest day ever known in Denver in November since 1871, prior to which year there is no official record. The weather bureau thermometer registered 9.2 below zero at 6 a. m. Passengers on the incoming trains tell of a severe blizard in Eastern Colorado and the neighboring state of Nebraska. The snow has fallen steadily for two days and the wind rioting at will over the rolling land, meeting with no obstruction, has piled drifts as high as 10 to 20 feet.

Helena, Mont., Nov. 28.—Last night was the coldest ever known in this state. At 7 o'clock the mercury registered from 20 to 25 degrees below zero in various parts of the city. The temperature in the northern part of the state is from 10 to 20 degrees colder.

TELEPHONE COMPETITION.

New Syndicate With an Immense Capital.

Chicago, Nov. 28.—A new syndicate, with practically unlimited capital, has been formed within the last few weeks to enter the telegraph and long-distance telephone business. This syndicate is composed of New York, Philadelphia and Chicago capitalists and $2,000,000 of the capital has already been underwritten for immediate outlay. The plans of the new corporation are, in a measure, dependent on action or non-action by the Western Union Telegraph Company in regard to a renewal of the latter's contract with the National Bell Telephone Company.

Enough has been learned of the new deal to give a general outline of the gigantic operations intended when the enterprise is fairly under way.

To begin with, there are already nearly 1,000 independent telephone exchanges in the smaller cities and towns of America. These exchanges have all been put in since the expiration of the Martin-Bell patent in 1894, and are now being operated in opposition to the old Bell monopoly.

The New Plan.

The plan of the new syndicate is to connect all the exchanges by long-distance wires, to penetrate other territory rapidly, and to keep on building until all the states and territories are wired with as many ramifications as the older companies now have in the aggregate.

It is the purpose of the new syndicate to start out with connections between Boston and New York, Philadelphia, Pitsburg, Chicago, St. Paul and intermediate cities. The territory of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company, or Long Distance Bell Company, will be invaded at every point.

Connected with the plans of the new telephone and telegraph syndicate are some of the principal railroad officials in America. Several prominent directors of Eastern and Western trunk lines are said to have practically pledged the co-operation of their companies. The only possible change or modification in the new syndicate plans will be in the event of the Western Union Company deciding to enter the telephone field as a result of the expiration of its seventeen-year contract with the National Bell Telephone Company.

If the Western Union Company enters the telephone field, the result may be that the Postal Telegraph Company will do likewise.

TIN PLATE MAKERS.

Confident of Tariff Protection and Better Prices.

Chicago, Nov. 28.—The American Artisan says: The outlook for American tin plates is very bright. Prices have already gone up and manufacturers with scarcely an exception look for a further advance. As regards the possibility of a higher tin plate tariff the reports are at wide variance. Some firms are not looking for a change; others expect a change, just as soon as McKinley can get the next Congress together, on that the Welsh tin plate manufacturers will be given a hearing. Every manufacturer is firm in the opinion he cannot regain the trade they have lost in this country, the only firm making any qualification whatever, saying the Welsh tin plate makers cannot regain lost ground if the tariff is left as it is.

FORAKER AND HANNA.

The Two Gentlemen Have a Conference Without Any Politics.

Cleveland, Nov. 27.—Senator J. B. Foraker was a visitor at the office of National Chairman M. A. Hanna today and the two gentlemen held a brief conference. It was stated that Senator Foraker came to this city upon legal business and that his call upon the national chairman was simply social and not to discuss political matters. The senator will go from Cleveland to Canton this afternoon and make a short call upon the president-elect.

Chairman Hanna said to-day that owing to a crush of personal business matters here he would be unable to start for Washington to arrange the details for the inauguration ceremonies until the latter part of next week.

COLORED WOMAN IN POLITICS.

Mrs. Ruffin Nominated to the Boston School Committee.

Boston, Nov. 25. The silver Democrats held their municipal convention last night to name candidates for aldermen, school committee and street commissioner. The school committee ticket is headed by the name of Mrs. Josephine St. Pierre Ruffin. Mrs. Ruffin is the widow of a negro lawyer who made quite a local reputation for himself, and she belongs to a refined and educated negro family.

Do not fail to read Thos. Slater's offer on page 5 for men.

MARRYING A CHEROKEE.

Pretty Romance of the Indian Territory.

Washington, Nov. 28.—The approaching marriage of Van H. Manning, of the United States Geological Survey, to a beautiful Indian girl, Miss Elizabeth Crabtree, belle of the Creek Nation, is an event that will profoundly stir the social circles of this city, where Mr. Manning is well-known, his father being the late Representative Manning, of

VAN H. MANNING.

Mississippi, a member of congress for many years, and his mother and sisters residing in Georgetown. He is a popular young man and a widower. He has been in charge of the survey party at South McAllister in the territory during the absence of Mr. Fitch, topographer-in-chief, and will be stationed there a year and a half longer.

Miss Crabtree is the daughter of W. F. Crabtree, a wealthy stockman and ranch owner of Muskogee, I. T., through which her claim to "headmoney" and other perquisites of citizenship come. Mr. Crabtree is one of the prominent men of the Creek tribe. Her mother is a member of the Carter family of Virginia. She is nineteen years of age, and is extremely fair, with dark eyes and bronze-brown hair, and was educated in one of the colleges of the territory. She is musical and dances like an angel. The members of the Geological Survey, in locating at Muskogee for a while, were not met by the frigid reception accorded the Dawes

ELIZABETH CRABTREE.

commission by the Creeks, but were hospitably entertained.

There is a little romance back of the wedding. A young member of the surveying party, a Washingtonian, formed a fancy for the dark eyes, the sunset-tinted hair and the lissome form of Miss Crabtree. In a moment of thoughtlessness he introduced young Manning to this ideal creature. And Manning played havoc with the young Washingtonian's prospects, for in a few weeks the announcement was made that the comely daughter of the aborigines was to become the bride of the young scientist.

Mr. Manning will spend his honeymoon in and around this city.

SKILL AND DARING.

How Alaskan Indians Kill the Grizzly.

San Francisco, Nov. 28.—H. J. Barling, who is identified with the salmon industry of Alaska as the owner of an extensive canning plant at Karluk, Kodiak Island, has just arrived from the North. He brought down with him some of the largest bear skins ever seen in San Francisco.

One of them, a perfect and unblemished skin of an enormous grizzly, measures 12 feet from tip to tip. Mr. Barling has a marvelous tale to relate of the natives' way of killing a bear. It is this:

"There are many grizzlies on Kodiak Island, he said, as well as a large number of cinnamon bears. I was cruising around in a launch in an unfrequented cove one day when I spied two immense grizzlies. They were so large that I did not care to go after them, but when I got back to Kadiak I communicated the fact to an Indian who bore the reputation of being one of the best bear hunters in that section. Although 52 years old, he had to ask his mother permission, which being granted he started across the country after the bears. Some of the natives of Kodiak use firearms on their hunting expeditions. This fellow simply armed himself with a long spear. He greased his head and got to windward of the animals. Pretty soon he heard a tramping in the brush and knew the prey was approaching. He dug a hole in the ground, planted one end of the spear firmly with the point in the direction of the bear and then crouched down.

"The bear came along and licked the head of the Indian. With a swift and dexterous movement the native cut a gash in the bear's neck with the sharp spear point. The angered animal drew back a few yards and made a rush. He imprisoned himself on the spear and all was over."

MR. CLEVELAND.

Will Be at Princeton, N. J., After His Term Expires.

Princeton, N. J., Nov. 28.—Rumors have been current here for some days concerning President Cleveland's intention of making his permanent home at Princeton. Nothing definite could be learned until last evening, when Prof. Andrew West returned from Washington after having an interview with the President. Prof. West gave out the following statement for publication:

"President Cleveland has to-day purchased the residence of Mrs. W. J. Sibdell on Bayard avenue, Princeton, and will make Princeton his permanent home soon after the expiration of his term as President.

"Negotiations look ing to this end have been in progress about three weeks and were consummated by the purchase of the property."

ALABAMA'S SENATOR.

Gen. E. W. Pettus Will Succeed Senator Pugh.

Montgomery, Ala., Nov. 25.—Gen. E. W. Pettus, of Dallas, was yesterday elected United States senator to succeed Senator Pugh, on March 4 next. He received 21 votes in the senate and 68 votes in the house; all the Deomcarts were present. The Republicans voted for Wickershay and the Populists for Longshore. The joint convention will meet to announce the result to-morrow.

Do You Suffer From Asthma?

If you do, you will be interested in knowing that the Kola Plant, a new botanic discovery found on the Congo River, West Africa, is pronounced an assured cure for the disease. Most marvelous cures are wrought by this new plant, when all other remedies fail. Rev. G. Ellsworth Stump, pastor of the Congregational church, Newell, Iowa, writes that the Kola Plant cured him of severe Asthma of twenty years' standing; Alfred C. Lewis, editor of the Farmer's Magazine, of Washington, D. C., testifies that it cured him when he could not lie down at night without fear of choking, and many others give similar testimony. It is really a most wonderful discovery. To prove to you beyond doubt its wonderful curative power, The Kola Importing Company, No. 1164 Broadway, New York, will send a large case of the Kola Compound free by mail to every reader of The Blade who suffers from any form of Asthma. They only ask in return that when cured yourself you will tell your neighbors about it. This is very fair, and you should surely try it, as it costs you nothing.

NEW TARIFF BILL.

Chances It Has for Passage in Congress.

Chicago, Nov. 27.—Walter Wellman, correspondent of the Times-Herald, says in his letter from Washington today: The next Congress will pass a Republican tariff bill, and will pass it before July.

In all probability the senate after March 4 will contain a working Republican majority. But if it does not, and if the silver Populists and Democrats attempt a combination to deprive the government of sufficient revenue for its needs, in the hope of forcing further issues of bonds with a desire to bring the gold standard into disrepute among the people who are prejudiced against bonds, at least five Democratic senators will support the Republican policy.

In this assurance we have one of the practical results of the recent alliance between the Republican party and the anti-silver Democrats. It is an alliance which will extend to legislation in case the Populists and their silver Democratic allies prove strong enough in the senate to threaten the country with a continuance of deficiency and treasury and currency troubles.

Gold Democrats.

The gold Democrats say it will be as much their duty to avert the entering of a silver wedge in the senate and the obstruction of wholesome legislation in Congress as it was their duty to join hands with the Republican party in the effort to suppress repudiation at the polls.

They recognize that the Republican party must revise the tariff, and so long as the revision is made along conservative lines they say they will be satisfied. Though they will in case of necessity give their help in its passage, they are conscious of the fact that the Republican party must take all responsibility for it before the people.

They are particularly well pleased with the Republican programme, which originated at Canton and among Major McKinley's friends, of passing a tariff so moderate and fair that it may stand for years to come without change, no matter what mutations in party fortunes may follow the politics of the future.

TWO LOVING CHILDREN.

They Saved Their Pennies and Eloped.

New Haven, Conn., Nov. 27.—Harry Haba, of East Killingly, though fourteen years old, is a poet, and the big world outside of Connecticut has been to him a land filled with marvels and glorified love. Harry's inspiration is Laura Mason, his step sister, who is only twelve years old, pretty, and quite as romantic as he.

Mrs. Atwood Mason, their mother, says the boy and girl used to read together and called each other "sweetheart." Harry frequently told his mamma that he would never be happy until he had made Laura his wife. The old folks laughed and said it was all very nice for a while they laughed the childish lovers continued to sigh and save their spare pennies.

Love in the heart of a child is keener in its capacity for suffering and happiness than that of folks of maturer years. Even Mrs. Mason admits that now as she laments the disappearance of the children. They went away from home a week ago Tuesday, for a walk, they said, and each kissed mamma affectionately and said "good bye."

"Why, you're coming back, aren't you?" asked Mrs. Mason, laughing. "Surely you're not going to elope?"

Harry looked away, and Laura blushed. Then they walked off, hand in hand, and since that time there has been no trace of them, though the search has been made with vigor.

"I cannot but believe that they have eloped," said Mrs. Mason. "There is sorrow in our home, and Thanksgiving Day was a sad one for us."

She fears that some misfortune has befallen the tender lovers in their wanderings, but she has not yet relinquished the hope of seeing them alive and well again.

SPANISH BRUTALITY.

Fair Ladies Attend Scenes of Executions.

San Francisco, Nov. 27.—A correspondent of the North China News, in speaking of the situation in the Philippine islands, says:

"Those suspects who are found or declared guilty are, if the accusation is one of direct participation in aiding the rebellion, sentenced to death. The execution is performed within twenty-four hours of the signing of the death warrant, and usually takes place in the public park, where the men, bound, are placed on their knees and shot in the back, death not always being instantaneous.

"During the last execution, thirty-four Spanish women were counted among the spectators. In fact the killing is looked upon to a certain extent as a sort of an exhibition, and no doubt compensates for the loss of the bull fights which have been discontinued during these days. Bands of music are also present, and by rendition of pleasing programmes make the performances all the more enjoyable.

"In the Province of Nueva Tcija I have it on the best authority a great deal of fighting has occurred. About a thousand natives who sympathized with the rebel party have been killed. To avoid sending prisoners down to Manila the authorities have been taking groups consisting of from five to fifteen natives, bound hand and foot, and pitching them into the river to meet death by drowning."

ANOTHER FAKE "ESTATE."

Great Nuts for Lawyers, Poor Things for Hopeful Inheritors.

Marion, Ind., Nov. 25.—In reply to a letter from Congressman Steele, whose constituent was interested in the alleged to $75,000,000 and about which Mr. Steele was seeking authentic information from the state department, he has received a letter from Secretary Olney, which in part is as follows:

"This department has for many years been in receipt, almost daily, of letters making inquiries about the various estates in Holland, said to be of immense value. It is doubtful if there is money enough in Europe to pay the claims based in Holland alone which have been presented to this department. In many instances families have spent large sums of money, in the employment of agents and attorneys to recover alleged estates, but in no instance, to the knowledge of the department has the least success attended their efforts."

MICHIGAN'S VOTE.

Board of State Canvassers Complete Their Work.

Lansing, Mich., Nov. 25.—The board of state canvassers to-day completed the work of canvassing Michigan's vote on Presidential electors, state officers and congressmen. High, fusion candidate for governor, lost 4,178 votes through his name having been misspelled on the ballots in some counties.

The result on President is: McKinley, 293,327; Bryan, 237,251; Levering, 4,968; Palmer, 6,930; Bentley, 1,809. McKinley's plurality, 56,076.

GLASS FACTORIES.

Work Will Be Resumed by December 15.

Pittsburg, Nov. 25.—The differences between the window glass workers and the manufacturers, which has kept the factories of the country idle since May 30, were settled at a wage conference last night, and 15,000 or more men dependent on that industry will be at work again on December 15. The scale is 10 per cent below that asked by the union at the opening of negotiations.

BAD CASE.

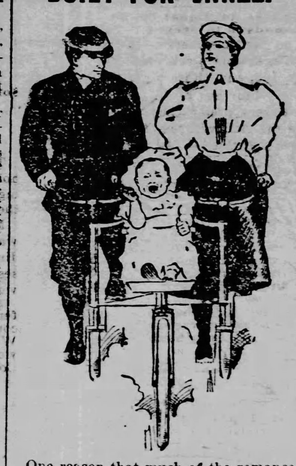
Iowa Not Able to Meet Outstanding State Warrants.

Des Moines, Ia., Nov. 28.—A statement issued here to-day shows Iowa has $450,0000 outstanding warrants for which there is no cash. The state officers say they are powerless to meet the situation and unpaid warrants may reach $700,000. The situation is due to slowness of tax payments and too low a levy to meet expenditures.

Wants to Succeed Peffer.

Topeka, Kas., Nov. 25.—John W. Breidenthal, chairman of the Democratic state central committee has announced his candiacy for the United States senate to succeed William A. Peffer. Senator Pfeffer is a candidate for re-election.

BUILT FOR THREE.



One reason that much of the romance and pleasing sentiment is often lost so soon out of married life is because the physical condition of the young wife is not equal to the practical cares and burdens she is called upon to carry.

The duties of wifehood and motherhood added to the cares of housekeeping, form altogether a considerable burden; a woman who is continually weak or ailing has all she can do to attend to the practical affairs of life and has no strength or spirit to spare for employment and recreation.

Many women grow old before their time for lack of the rational pleasures and diversions from which they are shut out because of some unnatural disease or weakness.

Every nervous and weak woman; every woman who suffers from headaches and back aches and dragging pains or any of the irregular conditions peculiar to her sex, should avail herself of the wonderful nerve-toning and health-building power of Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription. It is the one perfect specific and cure for all the weaknesses and diseases of woman's special organism.

It cures all ulcerations and weakening drains and every form of feminine derangement. It purifies the system and tones the nerve-centres, and gives vital energy to the entire system.

For delicate wives or prospective or nursing mothers the "Favor to Prescription" is a marvelous reinforcement of their constitutional powers. Taken early during gestation it shortens confinement and makes delivery easy; banishes all its danger and nearly all its pain; protects the system against relapse or mental disturbance; and promotes the secretion of healthy nourishment for the child.

No other medicine has ever done so much for weak and suffering women as this "Favorite Prescription" of Doctor Pierce. No other physician has successfully treated more cases of obstinate feminine disease. For nearly 30 years Dr. Pierce has been chief consulting physician to the Invalid's Hotel and Surgical Institute, of Buffalo, N. Y., at the head of a splendid staff of physicians from the most famous medical universities in the world.

An educated and skilled specialist is the only one competent to prescribe for diseases of woman's delicate and intricate organism. No woman who values her health should trust to the advice of a mere nurse or a medicine compounded by an incompetent person.

Any woman may consult Dr. Pierce either personally or by letter without cost, and with absolute confidence of receiving the most eminent professional advice anywhere obtainable. Her letter will be answered with careful directions for self-treatment whereby her difficulty may be cured without undergoing the useless examinations so repugnant to modest women.

Every woman ought to read Doctor Pierce's great thousand-page illustrated book, "The People's Common Sense Medical Adviser." A paper-bound copy will be sent free for 21 one-cent stamps to pay cost of mailing only. Address, World's Dispensary Medical Association, Buffalo, N. Y. For a handsomer, stronger, cloth-bound copy, send ten stamps extra (31 in all).

ELECTROCUTION IN OHIO.

Successful Test of the New Apparatus at Columbus.

Columbus, O., Nov. 27.—The first of a series of tests of the electrecution apparatus was made at the penitentiary about 5 o'clock Wednesday evening, and the prison officials are highly elated over the successful manner in which the test was performed. The victim was a bulldog whom the officials call "Jack." He was brought to the pen about a week ago from Greenwich, O., by Electrician Canfield. "Jack" was an aged resident of Greenwich, and, as he had outlived his usefulness, the owner donated him to the cause of science.

A current of 1,500 volts was turned on and Jack fell over dead. There was not a sign of a struggle, not a muscle twitched and there was every indication that death came suddenly and painlessly. Dr. Sharp was present, and he failed to find any pulsation after the animal fell over.

The officials were naturally delighted with the success of the first test, and they will make a series of preliminary tests, the final one to be made before the board of penitentiary managers Tuesday, Dec. 1. The victim on that occasion will be an old mule. Voltage to be used on the first murderer will be about 1,600 volts, the same as used on William Kemmler, who was the first man electrocuted at Auburn, N. Y., Aug. 6, 1890.

BABY COMING.

Gen. Harrison's Household in Busy These Days.

Indianapolis, Ind., Nov. 28.—Extensive preparations have been made in the family of ex-resident Harrison for the expected advent of an heir. These consist in unusual precautions to preserve the health of Mrs. Harrison and in the making of an unusually handsome wardrobe, consisting of elegant dresses, dainty underwear of the most ornate and expensive patterns and little wraps of the finest cashmere, elegantly brocaded and trimmed in the most costly French laces. The material from which most of these articles were made was purchased in New York when the ex-President and Mrs. Harrison were on their way home from their summer stay in the Adirondacks. Within the next month a capable nurse will be installed in the Harrison home and will remain in attendance upon Mrs. Harrison for six weeks or two months or longer if occasion requires it. There is naturally some speculation regarding the effect of the advent upon the family relations as represented in case of his son and daughter.

COL. FRED. GRANT

Tells of His Little Visit to Major McKinley.

New York, Nov. 25.—Col. Fred Grant was at police headquarters to-day, after an absence from the city of a week, during which time he paid a visit to President-elect McKinley at Canton, O. Col. Grant said that his call upon Mr. McKinley was purely social, that it had not been suggested that he (Grant) was to be appointed to a foreign mission; and he added that he would not be secretary of war in Mr. McKinley's cabinet. In speaking of the new cabinet Col. Grant said: "I do not think that Mr. McKinley knows himself who he will select. I do not say this as coming from Mr. McKinley, but I know that there are a dozen persons anxious for each office constituting the cabinet and Mr. McKinley will have to look over the qualifications of each man before he makes his selections. I have known Mr. McKinley intimately for 20 years and my visit to his home was purely, as I said before, of a social nature."

Famous Astronomer Dead.

Cambridge, Mass., Nov. 28.—Benjamin Apthrop Gould, famous as a scholar and astronomer is dead. As he was descending the stairs in his residence Thursday night he accidentally fell and struck on his head. He was rendered unconscious and passed away a few hours later.

FOREIGN.

HAMBURG STRIKE.

More Than Fourteen Thousand Men Out.

Hamburg, Dec. 1.—A letter signed by Senator Hachman, the chief of police; Sigmund Hinrichsen, the president of the municipal council, and Dr. Noack, chairman of trades court, has been sent to Count Von Elm, a member of the reichstag, to the representatives of the strikers, and to Herr Laessiz, a ship owner representing the employers, appealing to them to have the dockers dispute arbitrated, and suggesting that a court composed of themselves, one leading employer and four labor representatives, be appointed for this purpose, and that its decisions should require the support of at least six out of eight votes.

The engineers of the harbor steamers and tugs demand an increase of wages or they will strike. The workmen on the state quays have also decided to stop work if they are asked to discharge the steamers of the Hamburg-American Company.

Non-Union Workers.

Two steamers have arrived here from England and Denmark with non-union laborers to take the place of strikers. The Heidmann coal firm has dismissed all strikers. The masters have rejected the warehouse men's demands and they refuse to negotiate. The wages committee for the sail makers of Hamburg and Altona have pledged themselves not to aid the masters. Many grain handlers, however, have resumed work.

At midnight an excited meeting of the river engineers decided to go out on a strike this morning.

The distribution of the strike funds began this morning. Seven thousand men are receiving aid. About 14,500 dockers and others are now on strike.

The boatmen of the Upper Elbe have decided not to strike.

Support Promised.

Berlin, Dec. 1.—At a meeting of the United Trades representatives here last evening, Herr Molkenbuhr, a member of the reichstag presiding, a resolution was passed assuring the Hamburg strikers of the solid support of the workingmen of Berlin and promising them financial aid, while agreeing to prevent the departure of men from this city to take the places of the strikers.

TRIES IT AGAIN.

Gen. Weyler is Again in the Field.

Havana, Nov. 28.—At 1 o'clock yesterday afternoon Captain General Weyler left Havana on board the schooner La Gaceppi for Mariel, Pinar Del Rio, where he will resume personal command of the Spanish forces.

Captain General Weyler arrived safely at Mariel yesterday, where he was received by the authorities and large crowds of people. He immediately started for Artemisa and on arriving there visited the hospitals, found them in an improved sanitary state and the health of the troops generally better. From Artemisa the captain general went on to Vuelta Abajo by train.

Cubans Say Weyler Lies.

New York, Nov. 28.—The interview given by General Weyler to The Associated Press inspired much comment at the headquarters of the cuban junta.

President Estrada declared that the statements of Weyler were absolutely devoid of truth and that he had intentionally misrepresented the condition of affairs in Cuba.

"I see," said President Palma, "that Weyler says that he is satisfied with the result of his military operations in the province of Pinar Del Rio, and that he went over all the northern hills and occupied the insurgent positions without any serious resistance.

"That is absolutely false. Weyler had an army of 35,000 men while the Cubans numbered less than 8,000. Of course it would have been foolish for the latter to give open battle to the Spaniards, but they did fight them from their positions on the hills, and in nearly every encounter the Spanish forces were routed. Some of the positions held by the Cubans were abandoned and the Spanish now occupy them. They are positions, however, of no material importance to the Cubans.

"Weyler says that the Cubans have nothing to complain of in the matter of Spanish tyranny. Well, the people of the United States know better. A Cuban is not allowed to vote unless he pays a tax of $20 per annum and all the office holders in Cuba are brought from Spain. The Spanish office holders all vote and so do their clerks, whether they pay any taxes or not."

Helpless Women Dishonored and Helpless Babes Slaughtered.

Jacksonville, Fla., Nov. 25.—The Cubans here are elated over news brought by another of Macco's agents, a lieutenant in his army, who came with sealed dispatches to the junta in New York. This officer reports that Weyler has displayed his customary methods, shooting pacificos on all occasions. At one time he shot a family of five, two being girls, simply because some of Macco's men had passed through their plantation, though without their knowledge.

Women were assaulted without number on many occasions, and such were some of the atrocities perpetrated that even the Spanish soldiers revolted and scores deserted to Macco's standard, saying that they were tired of killing women and children. Macco's men are encouraged by Weyler's failure and by the supplies received lately, three large expeditions having landed recently with good supplies of ammunition and dynamite.

Two Americans were arrested on the coast last week, it is stated, and thrown into Mora Castle without any information being given the American consulate. It is hoped in Havana by American residents that General Lee will return soon, as they fear that without him their interests will not be looked after, as they say the Spanish officials fear Lee and will not dare do things when he is there they are openly perpetrating now.

FIERCE FIGHTING

Was That in the Rubi Hills of Cuba.

Chicago, Nov. 27.—The Tribune's special from Jacksonville, Fla., says: Col. Jose Reyes, aide-de-camp of Gen. Macco, wounded and en route to New York for medical treatment and with dispatches to the junta passed through here yesterday. He says the fighting in the Rubi hills of Pinar Del Rio was the most sanguinary battle of the war. He claims that 2,000 of Weyler's men were killed in two days and twice as many wounded.

Weyler went to the field with 35,000 men in three columns, one of 15,000 under himself, one of 10,000 under Gen. Echagur and a third of 10,000 under Gen. Munoz. They found Macco entrenched in a crescent-shaped range of hills. When at the foot of the hills the Spaniards were met with a withering fire that cut gaps in their ranks. Macco's men shot from behind rocks and trees and gradually gave way before the Spaniards, who, encouraged by what they thought to be a victory, hotly pursued.

Mines Exploded.

Suddenly a deafening explosion rent the air and a scene followed somewhat like the mine horror at Petersburg during the Civil War. Horses and men were blown high in the air and fell to earth dead and mangled. The dynamite mine was touched off by John Linn, formerly of this city, who is Macco's electrician. Macco then let loose his dynamite guns, prepared by Linn and more havoc was wrought.

In the mine explosion Col. Reyes says Weyler lost 700 men killed and 500 more in charge, besides 1,000 wounded. Estagur Macco, knowing of the reserve force under Weyler, retreated to even a stronger position. There he was attacked by the column under Echague, who was roundly thrashed and driven from the field, losing 800 men killed besides 1,300 wounded. Next day Macco retreated again, maneuvering all the while to entrap Weyler into a field that had been honeycombed with dynamite. Meanwhile, however, Gen. Weyler, hearing that there was danger of an uprising in Havana because of his failure to crush Macco, hastened back to that city.

Weyler Wants Corn.

Havana, Nov. 27.—Antonio Lopez Colomo, formerly leader of the revolutionists in Matanzas, was shot yesterday afternoon, having remained for 24 hours previous in chapel, according to law.

Capt. Gen. Weyler has issued orders to the farmers in the provinces of Pinar Del Rio, Havana and Matanzas to carry the new crop of corn to the garrisoned towns and the railroad officials have been instructed to provide the farmers with cars and mules with which to facilitate transportation. The corn will be sold to the commanders of the Spanish columns and will be used for military purposes. The commanders may buy the corn at current prices, or may admit on deposit.

SPANISH ATROCITIES.

Horrors of the Inquisition Revived by the Same Instruments

San Francisco, Nov. 25.—News from Manilla brought by the steamer City of Peking from Hong Kong shows that the Spaniards have resorted to torture of natives and half-breeds of the Philipines which surpasses in cruelty that practiced by the Chinese mandarins in cases of the most atrocious crimes.

They are also charged with confiscating the estates of wealthy half castes and deporting those wretched victims to Fernandopo on the west coast of Africa, a place which has a climate that will quickly prove fatal to the stranger.

These statements are not given on the strength of reports of refugees. James W. Davidson, a well known correspondent, was recently commissioned by the Hong Kong press to go to Manilla and cautioned to evade the press censorship and in several letters which he smuggled through the lines he tells of what he has seen and what he has heard on good authority. According to him the instruments of torture used in the Spanish inquisition three centuries ago have been kept in the monastaries of Manilla and brought out recently and used to extort confessions from natives and Mestizo suspects who have been arrested and have been kept in jail in Manilla subjected to hideous treatment. Mr. Davidson also intimates that the leading powers of Christendom will be called upon to interfere and put an end to torture which revive the worst features of the Spanish inquisition.

TOO MUCH TAXATION.

Bitter Debate Over the Budget in the Reichstag.

Berlin, Nov. 30.—The debate on the budget was commenced in the reichstag to-day. Count Von Posadowsky, the secretary of the treasury, dwelt upon the favorable financial position and stated that the surplus for 1896-'97 would probably be 24,754,000 marks, from which would have to be deducted 2,000,000 marks to cover the supplementary estimates. The current year, he added, was the first since 1875, in which there had been no increase in the public debt. Proceeding, the secretary demonstrated the necessity of increasing the salaries of the public officials, as provided in the estimates. (Cheers from the Right).

Herr Fritzen, Centrist, criticised the estimates of 1897-'98 as being less favorable than those of the current year. In so doing he referred to the dissatisfaction felt by the people at the excessive military pensions. He declared that the increase in the naval expenditures was exorbitant, and insisted that reductions were absolutely necessary. He added that the sum demanded for an ironclad to replace the Koenigwhel

WASHINGTON.

SECRETARY OF WAR

Makes His Annual Report to the President.

Washington, Nov. 27.—Secretary of War, Daniel S. Lamont, has submitted his annual report to the President.

The expenditures for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1896, the appropriations for the present year, and the estimates of amounts required for the year beginning July 1, 1897, are as follows: Expenditures for fiscal year ended June 30, 1896, $51,803,298.62. Appropriations for fiscal year ending June 30, 1897, $54,044,244.20. Estimates for fiscal year ending June 30, 1898, $52,883,583.20.

The aggregate of appropriations for this department unexpended and turned into the general fund of the treasury at the end of the last fiscal year was $1,975,033.07. For the year 1895, it was $1,764,467.98, and for 1894 it was $1,584,922.24.

Army Service and Stations.

During the past year the only active operations devolved upon the army consisted of scouting in the mountains of Arizona and in the Mexican territory adjacent to the Arizona line, with the object of the capture of renegade Apaches, who, in December, 1895 and March, 1896, raided into Arizona from their resorts south of the boundary line and committed three murders within our own territory. Detachments of troops were immediately sent in pursuit; two of the Indians were killed and one captured. The remainder of the band of renegades were pursued 150 miles south of the Mexican line where the trail could be no longer followed. The pursuit was continued into Mexican territory under an international agreement between the United States and Mexico, which provided for the reciprocal crossing of the frontiers by the armed detachments of either country when in actual pursuit of hostile Indians. The service performed was very arduous, and involved over 42,000 miles march of various organized detachments.

Strength of the Army.

The number of enlisted men in the service on October 31 was 25,426, or 284 less than the number authorized by law. Deducting the sick, those absent on furloughs, recruits not joined, the men employed in the staff departments and on detached service, the effective field strength of the army on that day was 22,382 of all arms. The number of officers of the line is 1,639. Of these, 1,300 are serving with their regiments and 339 are on detached duty. The number of officers on detached service in 1895 was 324, and on the 30th of June, 1893, it was 470.

I renew my recommendation, contained in previous reports, that the infantry be reorganized upon the general idea of three light and mobile battalions of four companies each to the regiment, instead of the unwieldy ten-company formation that was adopted in 1798 and is still adhered to for the infantry arm.

The completion of several defensive works and installation of their modern armament at points where no troops are stationed, and the approaching completion of other modern batteries, suggest the pressing need of a larger force of artillerists than is now available.

Sea Coast Defenses.

Aggregate for permanent defenses (including sites).....	$11,836,081.08
Aggregate for armament.....	14,031,079.25
Grand aggregate.....	26,457,160.33

Deducting the amount for sites and unappropriated amounts under the act of June 6, 1896, and under the Bethlehem Iron Company's contracts, leaves $18,502,029 as the amount actually appropriated for fortifications proper and their armament.

Indian Prisoners.

The Indians now in confinement number 310, all members of the Apache tribe, who were captured in Arizona in the years 1887-88. While in captivity there have been 117 births and 205 deaths.

OUR NAVY.

What the Secretary of the Navy Will Say in His Report.

Washington, Nov. 28.—Secretary Herbert will make some important suggestions in his last annual report as head of the navy department, which will be made public next week. It is understood that he will ask Congress to provide during the coming session for three battleships and ten torpedo boats. The cost of such an increase would be about $10,000,000. A battleship costs about $3,000,000 and a torpedo boat about $800,000. Last year the appropriation was $13,000,000 for the increase, and Secretary Herbert will probably ask that the allotment made during the coming session be between $10,000,000 and $11,000,000.

Some changes in the system of buying supplies will be recommended by the secretary, notably in the purchase of coal for the ships. It is likely the secretary will recommend that the coal be bought hereafter by the paymaster general, and that the entire transaction be taken from the bureau of equipment.

The secretary will withhold any estimate for additional docks, yet some of the docks are found to be in a desperate condition, notably the lumber docks in the South.

Some mention will be made of the care of the torpedo boats. A station must be provided for the storage of these diminutive craft.

A description will be given of the progress made in armor and armament, showing that our domestic sources of supply are abundant and reliable, the war material coming mainly from Pennsylvania and New York foundries and factories.

The progress in engineering is also reported, and it will be shown that the naval engineers have led in many ways their foreign brethren.

CLEVELAND AND CUBA.

How Cuban Affairs Are Viewed at Washington.

Washington, Nov. 27.—The Cuban situation seems to be of more interest to the Senators and Representatives than the treasury deficit, the tariff question or the financial issue. President Cleveland's message is awaited with interest, chiefly because everybody is anxious to see what he will have to say in regard to Cuba. If he takes the position that this government should persist in a policy of non-intervention for even a few months longer, it is believed Congress will attempt independent action in behalf of the insurgents. It is claimed that resolutions recognizing the insurgents as belligerents or recognizing the independence of Cuba would readily receive the support of a majority in both houses. Indeed many of the leaders profess to believe that such resolutions could be passed over the President's veto.

In the meantime the agencies which have been trying hard during the past year to bring about war between Spain and the United States are becoming more and more active. All sorts of reports calculated to inflame the public mind in this country against Spain are industriously circulated. The fact that these reports emanate from irresponsible sources does not prevent them from accomplishing their purpose. They are put in circulation one day and denied the next, but meanwhile they have helped to intensify the feeling of enmity toward the Spanish government which is held by every sympathizer with the Cuban insurrection.

A case in point is the sensational story published in the New York World that the Competitor prisoners had again been tried by court-martial. Although the story was instantly pronounced a "fake" by the officers of the state department, it undoubtedly found many believers throughout the country.

There are so many influences at work to precipitate trouble between this government and Spain that it will be surprising if war does not break out between the two countries before the Cuban question is settled.

GEN. FITZHUGH LEE.

Satisfied That Spaniards Have Not Tried Competitor Prisoners.

Washington, Nov. 25.—Consul-General Lee was at the state department again yesterday. When asked as to the report that the competitor prisoners had been tried at Moro Castle, contrary to a protest made by him before he left Havana, Gen. Lee said: "I do not believe any trial has occurred. If it had the facts would be speedily reported here by Vice Consul Springer. There have been some preliminary steps toward the trial and the depositions of the prisoners were taken, but farther than this nothing has been done as far as I know."

Absolutely Pure.

The Careful Housewife will use no other.

TO BUY CUBA.

Cleveland to Present a Plan in His Message.

Washington, Dec. 1.—President Cleveland, it is said, is considering a plan for the ultimate emancipation of Cuba that will be honorable to Spain and the insurgents and satisfactory to the United States and the rest of the yorld. He will, it is asserted, recommend in his message to Congress the adoption in the case of the Cuban question the plan, modified in many respects, that was so successful in bringing about a settlement of the Venezuelan question, namely, the reference of the matter to a commission. The object of this commission will be to bring the war in Cuba to a close and to perfect an arrangement whereby the Cubans may purchase their independence.

The basis of the plan is said to be a tripartite agreement whereby Great Britain is to furnish the money to buy the independence of the island on Cuban bonds guaranteed by the United States, Spain's assent having already been practically assured to the proposition.

Composition of the Commission.

The commission which is to perfect the plans and see that they are carried out is to be composed of three members. The United States, as the representative of the Cubans, is to choose one, Great Britain, as the representative of Spain, is to select another, while the third member is to be chosen by agreement between the United States and Great Britain together. Negotiations have, it is said, been in progress between the three most interested countries on this line for some time. The

It has been represented to Spain that no matter what sacrifice of men and treasure she may make the probabilities are that she will never be able to restore peace in the island while the insurgents follow their present tactics, with climate and natural advantages in their favor. It has been pointed out also that the continuance of a war so destructive to the commercial interests of the whole world, and particularly of the United States, cannot be allowed to go on interminably. These arguments were, it is said, followed by the presentation of the plan outlined above, whereby the Cubans are to purchase their independence.

Spain Finally Agrees to It.

At first it is understood that the proposition was rejected by Spain as being unworthy of consideration, but in a later rectification it is said to have met with a more favorable response.

The negotiations have, it is said, been conducted between Secretary of State Olney, Senor De Lome, the Spanish minister, and Julian Pauncefote, the British ambassador, and it is understood that they have reached such a stage that the President may make them public in a short time.

This is the latest story afloat in Washington in regard to the attitude of President Cleveland on the Cuban situation. No confirmation of it can be obtained in official circles here, and at the British embassy and the Spanish Legation, no one will even discuss it. The story is given for what it is worth. It comes from a gentleman who has opportunities to get inside information.

ANOTHER DEFICIT.

Wilson Bill Does Not Produce Promised Revenue.

Washington, Nov. 27.—Before the election it was given out that the treasury receipts would increase after the election, but, like other promises of what was to come under the Wilson bill, they have not done so. At the close of business to-day, the treasury statement showed a deficit of $7,068,027 for the twenty-five days of November. The excess of expenditures over receipts was $277,678. The exact deficit from July 1 to November 25 is $39,957,603. Instead of improving, the relations between revenue and outgo are steadily growing worse.

The statement shows that the amount of gold coin and bullion, including the $100,000,000 reserve, is $128,272,583. But of all other kinds of money there is now less than $100,000,000 in the treasury. The available cash balance, including the gold reserve, is down to $227,766,112.

If a bond issue becomes necessary, it can not be defended this time on the plea of maintaining the gold reserve. It will show for itself that the great cause of the financial scare and the previous issue of bonds was simply because the Democratic Wilson tariff bill failed to provide sufficient revenues to run the government.

UNCLE SAM'S MONEY.

Annual Report of the Treasurer of the United States.

Washington, Nov. 30.—The annual report of Daniel N. Morgan, treasurer of the United States, shows the net ordinary revenues of the government during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1896 to have been $326,976,200, and the expenditures $352,179,446, leaving a deficiency for the year of $25,203,246, or $17,601,977 less than during the preceding fiscal year.

The report shows that during the last fiscal year there was an increase of $7,863,134 in the receipts from customs, an increase of $3,341,192 from internal revenue sources, an increase of $2,479,622 from miscellaneous sources and a loss of $97,823 from the sale of public lands, making the net increase in the receipts $13,586,125. The decrease in the expenditures amounted to $4,015,852.

BATTLESHIP TEXAS.

Severe Criticism by the Board of Inquiry.

Washington, Nov. 28.—The Navy department has received the report of the court of inquiry which investigated the condition of the battleship Texas. It is understood to be a severe criticism of the ship, but the naval officials will make no statement concerning it as it has not yet been passed upon by Secretary Herbert.

Washington, Dec. 1.—It is known at the navy department that Capt. Glass will be relieved from the command of the Texas, and it is said that this will occur "in the natural order of events." It is not stated whether or not the change is the result of the accidents to the vessel under his command.

POSOFFICE AFFAIRS.

Decrease in Business for the Month of October.

Washington, Nov. 25.—The October statement of receipts at the thirty largest postoffices in the country show a net decrease of $43,715, or one and four-tenths per cent, as compared with the same month of the previous year. There is nothing significant in this fact, as it is attributed to business inactivity in the heat of the political campaign.

The increase of mail carried during a campaign is stated by postal officials to be made up largely of franked matter, so that there is little to offset business listlessness. The total receipts for the month at these thirty large offices were $2,932,767, against $2,976,482 in October, 1895.

REFUSED CREDIT.

Was Mrs. Cleveland at a Washington Store.

Washington, Nov. 28.—The President was refused credit at one of the large stores in Washington last week. The store was run on a cash basis. Since the story has leaked out it has caused considerable astonished comment in the capital. The circumstances are that the other day Mrs. Cleveland in her carriage drove up to one of the big dry goods stores and sent her maid inside. The maid purchased some dainty articles for the President's children, and then ordered the bill charged to Mr. Cleveland. After the clerk had a conference with one of the proprietors, she was dumbfounded by the information that the establishment could not break its cash rule even for the President of the United States. The maid returned to Mrs. Cleveland, entered the carriage, and the little party drove away.

In an interview the proprietor said: "We regret the occurrence exceedingly. But it has been our creed to make no class distinction. Distinguished people are exempt from the annoyance of collectors, but it has been our misfortune to learn they are the hardest to collect from.

"It is true that in most cases this is an oversight. However, in this case we did not doubt that the exchequer of the executive mansion was adequate to pay all its bills. But with us it involved a principle.

"We could not violate our policy even for the Chief Magistrate of the United States, for a rule which applies to one we believe should apply to all alike. "I am sure," he added, "our policy has been severely tested in this case."

AT THE WHITE HOUSE.

Days Designated When the President Will Receive.

Washington, Nov. 27.—Arrangements for the social events at the White House for the coming winter are completed, and the list, as announced, is as follows:

Friday, January 1—President's reception, 11 a. m. to 2 p. m.

Thursday, January 7—Cabinet dinner.

Thursday, January 14—Diplomatic reception, 9 a. m. to 11 p. m.

Thursday, January 21—Diplomatic dinner.

Thursday, January 28—Congressional and Judicial reception, 9 p. m. to 11 p. m.

Thursday, February 4—Supreme Court dinner.

Saturday, February 6—Mrs. Cleveland's reception, 5 p. m. to 7 p. m.

Thursday, February 11—Army, Navy and Marine Corps reception, 9 p. m. to 11 p. m.

Thursday, February 18—Public reception, 9 p. m. to 11 p. m.

NOVEMBER TORNADO.

Wonderful Results of Experiments by German Scientists.

Washington, Nov. 30.—Commercial Agent Sawter reports to the state department from Glauchau, Germany, on recent experiments by Professors Pfeipper and Kalle with "typhus-anti toxine." If the hopes of the professors are realized medical science will receive a most valuable accession through their discoveries. The experimenters believe that typhus germs, like cholera germs, may be traced back to the existence in the blood of anti-typhoid substances. The typhoid bacillus is known to exist largely in well and spring water and the fact that they are frequently the direct causes of infection is recognized by bacteriologists. Consequently the experiments, the reports sets forth, tend to trace the existence of these germs, and by locating them preserving numberless lives. It is shown that between the ages of 20 and 25, persons are most prone to the development of typhus germs. It is claimed that the "typhus-anti toxine" can easily and quickly be inoculated, proving of great benefit, especially in time of epidemic. The entire results of the experiments will soon be published for the benefit of the medical world.

BURNED TO DEATH.

Sad Fate of Chaplain Blaine and His Daughter.

Washington, Nov. 30.—A dispatch received at the War Department to-day states that the residence of Chaplain M. C. Blaine at Fort Ringgold, Tex., was burned this morning, and both Blaine and his daughter were burned to death. Mrs. Blaine escaped uninjured. The chaplain went up stairs to save his daughter, and was overcome in the flames before he could make his way out.

Chaplain Blaine was a native of Kentucky, but was appointed to the army from Pennsylvania.

MRS. HOBART ILL.

Wife of the Vice-President Suffering From a Bad Cold.

New York, Nov. 30.—There was a rumor yesterday that Mrs. Garret A. Hobart, wife of the Vice President-elect, was seriously ill. This was denied at the Hobart residence. For the last few days Mrs. Hobart has been confined to her bed, suffering from a severe cold, but is recovering rapidly.

Men! Do not despair. Read Thos. Slater's offer on page 4.

GROVER AND CUBA.

WHAT WILL HIS VERDICT BE?
—Pittsbupg Dispatch.

FIFTEEN MILLIONS.

That is What the Marlborough Wedding Cost Vanderbilt.

New York, Nov. 30.—Fifteen million dollars for a duke.

Bluntly speaking, this is the sum W. K. Vanderbilt gave for the honor of allying his family name with that of the Duke of Marlborough.

In the language of pomp and circumstance, it is the amount of dowry or settlement Mr. Vanderbilt made before the announcement of the engagement between his daughter and the duke.

This statement is made on the unquestionable authority of an English gentleman visiting in Washington, who has been in position to know all the facts. His account is circumstantial and undoubtedly correct.

The terms of the settlement were $10,000,000, or to speak with absolute accuracy, the income of $10,000,000, on Mr. Vanderbilt's daughter during her lifetime, and $5,000,000 on the duke. If children are born, they will inherit the mother's portion at her death. If the marriage shall be without issue this $10,000,000 will revert on the death of the duchess.

But the duke's $5,000,000 is to be his in any event.

Good Investments.

The settlement was not made in cash but in investments for the benefit of the duke and duchess. These investments are principally in the stocks and bonds of the Lake Shore and other Vanderbilt railroads.

Some time before the announcement of the engagement, the Duke of Marlborough's solicitor, Robert Harding Millward, came over to New York and was engaged in a long consultation with Mr. Vanderbilt. The newspapers announced Mr. Millward's arrival and gave some hint of his errand, but said nothing of the length of the negotiations, which were entirely upon the matter of Miss Vanderbilt's wedding settlement. It was not entirely easy to arrive at the arrangements here described, which was the only one which met the view of the duke's adviser.

It may be added $5,000,000 of the $15,000,000 dowry had previously formed a part of the settlement made on Mrs. W. K. Vanderbilt at the time she secured a divorce. But this particular $5,000,000 again is of the $10,000,000 settled upon the duchess, and is to revert to the estate of Mrs. Vanderbilt, now Mrs. O. H. P. Belmont, in case the duchess dies childless.

SPIRITUALIST EXPOSED.

Startling Result of a Raid in Boston.

Boston, Mass., Nov. 30.—"Rev." O. L. Concannon, a Kansas materializing medium who has held forth for two Sundays at the First Spiritual Temple, was ruthlessly exposed by 25 young men yesterday morning, and a scene bordering on a riot ensued. When the materialization show began a form appeared enveloped in a white robe and with a lace film about its head. There was a hiss and a sudden hand-clap. This was the signal for a simultaneous rush of some half dozen members of the audience. Five muscular men jumped upon the stage, two of them engaging Mr. Ayer, who had turned to meet them and who were instantly seized by him. One partially got away from Mr. Ayer and pulled the right hand curtain from the front of the cabinet, while the other curtain was torn from the cabinet by another of the raiders.

Mr. Concannon was found in a state of absolute nudity, having divested himself of his "spiritual" toggery. The audience seemed spellbound by the spectacle, and Mr. Ayer was white with fury, and rushed about the platform in frantic efforts to prevent the onslaught from the raiders. The raiders in a compact body left the building, carrying with them wigs, whiskers, robes and other paraphernalia. Their progress was fought all the way to the street by the temple following, and a squad of 15 policemen, who had been summoned, cleared the church.

NEW FORTIFICATIONS.

Are to Be Placed in Pensacola Harbor.

Pensacola, Fla., Nov. 30.—It is rumored in military circles that the troops of the First artillery, now stationed at various posts on the gulf and Atlantic coast are to be concentrated here for practice with the modern heavy guns which will soon be in position on Santa Rosa island. The selection of a site for another battery leaves no doubt in the minds of military men that Pensacola is to be heavily fortified as rapidly as possible, and as the troops need practice in the handling of the modern guns, this harbor is deemed by military men to be the best that could be selected for the purpose.

CALIFORNIA DIVIDES.

Bryan Will Get One Elector in That State.

San Francisco, Dec. 1.—Final returns from Santa Clara county, completing the state returns, show that Martin, Bryan elector, has defeated Flint, McKinley elector, by 492. This gives McKinley eight electors from California, and Bryan one.

CONSUMPTION

TO THE EDITOR: I have an absolute Cure for CONSUMPTION and all Bronchial, Throat and Lung Troubles, and all conditions of Wasting Away. By its timely use thousands of apparently hopeless cases have been *permanently cured.*

So proof-positive am I of its power to cure, I will send *FREE* to anyone afflicted, THREE BOTTLES of my Newly Discovered Remedies, upon receipt of Express and Postoffice address.

Always sincerely yours,

T. A. SLOCUM, M.C., 181 Pearl St., New York.

When writing the Doctor, please mention this paper.

R ADWAY'S R EADY R ELIEF

is the only safe and perfectly harmless remedial agent in vogue that will instantly stop pain. It instantly relieves and soon cures Headache, whether sick or nervous; Toothache, Neuralgia, Rheumatism, Lumbago, Pains and Weakness in the Back, Spine or Kidneys, Pains around the Liver, Pleurisy, Swelling of the Joints, Sprains, Bruises and Pains of all kinds. RADWAY'S READY RELIEF. Sold by Druggists all the world over.

MEN WITH TAILS.

Darwin's Missing Link Has Been Discovered.

London, Nov. 30.—Sensational news comes to a waiting world to-day on the authority of a French traveler that "the missing link" has been discovered and alive. Paul d'Enjoy, an explorer who is investigating an unknown region in Indo-China on the frontier of Annam, is the discoverer. He is traveling in a mountainous district, 12 degrees latitude, 104 degrees longitude. It is a region of dense forests in which lurk savage races. Approach is often dangerous. Among them is a tribe called Moi.

One day as D'Enjoy was going through the woods with a strong band of followers they came upon a small group of Moi, who instantly took to flight, with the exception of one individual who was gathering honeycombs in a tall tree. When he saw the travelers he came down the trunk with his foot flat to the bark, apparently not using his tail, and attempted to escape, but they surrounded the tree, and after a struggle effected his capture. Some of the party understood the Moi language, for D'Enjoy tells that the wild man gave them some information about his people, though interrupting his discourse with sobs and howls.

All Had Tails.

All of his race, he stated, formerly possessed tails, but they are no longer universal appendages, because many of the tribe had ceased to be of pure Moi blood through intermarriage, especially in the case of those dwelling in the outskirts of the country, with tailless tribes. The wild man's companions had escaped, but they left behind them in a long, tunnel-shaped hut built of dry leaves some polished bamboo pipes, copper bracelets, and bead collars.

These were said to be obtained from Annamese neighbors, with whom they occasionally trade, though they are dangerous customers, and have no scruples about knocking creditors on the head by way of payment. They are said to burn their dead and bury the ashes in bamboo pots, differing in this respect from the Chinese and other neighbors.

The prisoner was extremely savage in aspect, and that is the character of the race. Their hair is exceptionally rough, sticking out like spurs of cocks, and the surrounding people treat them as savage beasts and apes, so that they are being gradually exterminated.

D'Enjoy's account is disappointing in details. He does not even describe the creatures' tails, nor their height, color, or features. He only adds that many of the race have peculiarly accentuated ankle-bones. One he captured poisoned the "coolie" in charge of him and escaped.

HORSES A NUISANCE.

Thousands Will Perish in the Northwest This Winter.

Tacoma, Wash., Nov. 30.—Nearly 100,000 head of horses are likely to starve to death in eastern Washington this winter, and, strange to say, their owners as a rule, are glad of it. Practically valueless are these horses. This fall whole bands of them have been sold at the rate of $1 to $3 per head. Electricity and the bicycle are the cause. The utility of the one and the popularity of the other have killed the horse market and to-day that noblest of animals is hanging his head and preparing to die on a thousand hills in the bunchgrass region. Instead of being man's best friend, the horse has become an actual pest in eastern Washington. "An eating machine" is his latest description, and his death by starvation is desired that food may be preserved for the great herds of cattle and sheep which are yet valuable to man.

TEXAS ROBBERS.

Hold Up a County Treasurer for a Goodly Sum.

Dallas, Tex., Nov. 30.—At midnight last night five pistol shots in the court house attracted the police to that building. W. E. Coe, county treasurer, was found in his office with blood oozing from a wound in the back of his head. He was in a dazed condition, but was able to give an account of what had happened. He had been working late on his books when, about midnight, two men appeared suddenly at his side. One placed a gun to his temple and ordered him to open the safe. He did so and all the valuable papers were examined by one of the robbers.

After placing a large sum of money in a canvas sack the robbers withdrew from the vault. Coe seized his pistol and shot at the robbers. The robbers returned the fire, hitting Coe in the back of the head, inflicting a bad scalp wound. The treasurer says the robbers secured $6,000 and he is confident that he wounded one of his assailants. Bloodhounds were put on the trail of the robbers.

MURPHY'S WORK.

Twenty Years He Has Been in the Temperance Fight.

Pittsburg, Nov. 30.—Twenty years ago in Pittsburg, Francis Murphy began the temperance work that has made him famous all over the country. He returned to the city from which he started, and last evening celebrated the 20th anniversary of the movement. The Grand Opera House, where the meeting was held, was packed to the doors. On the stage were a number of prominent men who took the pledge a score of years ago and kept it. Since then they have become active in the temperance work of the city.

ANCIENT INSTRUMENT.

Delaware's Constitution is of the Ante-Bellum Variety.

Wilmington, Del., Nov. 30.—A convention will be held in Dover, the capital of the state, Tuesday, for the purpose of framing a new constitution for Delaware. The convention will be composed of 19 Democrats and 11 Republicans. The present constitution of Delaware was framed and adopted in 1831, and few changes have been made in it since then. It is virtually the same instrument adopted in 1776, and contains antebellum references to the white and black man in the way of distinction.

DISPENSARY PLAN.

Strong Influence Brought in Alabama for Regulating Laws.

Montgomery, Ala., Nov. 30.—It looks as if the liquor dispensary bill which seeks to establish in Alabama a liquor system identical with that in effect in South Carolina, will eventually pass.

A strong sentiment in favor of the bill prohibiting the sale or giving away of cigarettes is also developing.

A lobby of moralists is beginning to gather and a hard fight will be made in favor of both measures.

FACTORIES RESUME.

Big Plant at Sanford, Me., Starts After a Long Shut Down.

Sanford, Me., Dec. 1.—The big plant of the Sanford Manufacturing Company resumed operations here yesterday after a long shut down. About 800 people, or two-thirds full force, are at work, and the others will be employed as soon as the general business outlook warrants.

Lawrence, Mass., Dec. 1.—The Pemberton mills, of Lawrence, started yesterday after a shut down of four months. The mills employ 800 hands, but over 300 were turned away without work.

CONVICT LABOR.

Wisconsin Manufacturers Will Discuss Its Effects.

Milwaukee, Dec. 1.—A mass meeting of the manufacturers of the state will be held here to-morrow when the question of convict labor, and its effects upon legitimate manufacturing concerns is to be fully considered. Similar action may be taken in other states.

VICTORIA'S NEW WILL.

It Will Prove an Interesting Document.

New York, Nov. 30.—A grave and perplexing question now confronts the Queen of Great Britain and Ireland and Empress of India.

The venerable Victoria is about to make a new will.

During the nearly three score years that she has occupied the throne she has been enabled to amass such an enormous fortune that the news contained in the cable dispatches sent to this country to the effect that she contemplates making new bequests and changing old ones, is calculated to excite anew the interest in the parchment felt on this side of the Atlantic, since it is known that no incons iderable portion of her majesty's wealth is invested in the United States.

The will now in existence was made more than a quarter of a century ago. Since then the numerous births and deaths that have taken place in the royal family has rendered necessary the addition of such a large number of codicils and alterations to the original document that but little of the latter remains.

With the object, therefore, of simplifying her majesty's dispositions, an entirely new will is about to be made.

Her Predecessors Left Only Debts.

Queen Victoria enjoys the distinction of being the first English sovereign who has ever had anything to leave. All of her predecessors upon the throne bequeathed to their successors nothing but debts, which parliament was called upon to pay. While the Queen permitted the nation thus to settle the liabilities of her uncles, King George IV. and King William IV., she made a point immediately after her succession to pay off in full the very large debts contracted by her father, the Duke of Kent, who had died while she was in the earliest infancy. This, the portioning of her daughters, as well as some of her granddaughters, who have in each case received from her a dowry of $500,000 on marrying, and the settlement on one occasion of some very pressing liabilities of the Prince of Wales, have constituted the only very heavy expenses which the Queen has been called on to meet since she ascended the throne in 1837.

So it is estimated that the Queen has at her disposal £35,000,000, or about $175,000,000, which will be distributed among her progeny.

MRS. CLEVELAND.

Is Adding to Her Accomplishments by Studying French.

Washington, Nov. 25.—Mrs. Cleveland is adding to her various other accomplishments by taking a thorough course in French. She has for a tutor one of the most proficient linguists in this city, who calls three times a week at the Executive Mansion. He regards Mrs. Cleveland as an apt pupil, and says she has acquired considerable proficiency. The fact is regarded as giving additional probability to the statement that it is the intention of Mr. Cleveland, upon retiring from the Presidency, to follow the example of General Grant and make an extensive tour abroad, encircling the globe in the course of his travels. He has never been beyond the confines of the United States, except in a brief visit to Cuba, and is said to have an inclination towards such a journey.

REGULATING LOCK PRICES.

This Refers to Locks Put Out by a Great Combine.

Philadelphia, Nov. 30.—The leading lockmakers of the country have just perfected a new combination. It is one to regulate the prices of locks in general, but more particularly trunk locks, on which it is claimed prices have been ruinously low during the past two or three years. The manufacturers in the combination, who have organized under the name of the American Trunk Lock Association, are the Corbin Cabinet Lock Company of New Britain, Conn.; the Eagle Lock Company of Terryville, Conn.; the Star Lock works of Philadelphia; the Yale & Towne Manufacturing Company of Stamford, Conn., and Shrend & Son, of Newark, N. J. All of the firms except the Yale & Towne Company were in a combination formed in 1891, which was dissolved in 1893.

PROBABLY INSANE.

Suicide Coolly Describes His Dying Sensations.

Chicago, Nov. 30.—A man giving the name of E. L. Bryan, who is thought to have come from Pittsburg, committed suicide at the Kimball hotel early yesterday morning, by taking laudanum. On a table in the room was found a notebook in which he described for twenty minutes the feeling he experienced as he was dying.

The statement was dedicated to medical science. He had taken great care to conceal his identity, tearing all marks from his clothes and underclothing. On the cover of his memorandum book was found the name of a Pittsburg firm, which leads the police to believe that Bryan hails from that city.

WM. STEINWAY DEAD.

End of the Great New York Piano Manufacturer.

New York, Nov. 30.—William Steinway, the piano manufacturer, died today at his residence in this city. Death was due to typhoid fever. Mr. Steinway, who had not been in good health for a year past, was taken ill with typhoid fever about four weeks ago. He was thought to be progressing toward recovery until Sunday morning, when he suffered a relapse. His physician was instantly summoned, and remained with him until the end came at a little after 3 o'clock this morning.

Satolli Makes Denial.

Rome, Nov. 28.—Cardinal Satolli declares absolutely false and reprehensible all rumors published in America alleging that he has made a report to the pope touching the university of Washington, Archbishop Ireland, Cardinal Gibbons, or other Catholic dignitaries.

Markets and Crops.

THE MERCANTILE AGENCIES

Consider the Outlook as Continuing Good.

New York, Nov. 28.—R. G. Dun & Co.'s weekly review of trade says:

When the rush of orders after election slackened many began to think business dwindling. Subsidence of deferred orders is not decrease of business. Broadly speaking the gain has been greater than anybody expected, and it is not surprising if a small part of it is in excess of the present consuming demand. Reports from all parts of the country show clearly enlargement of trade, not at all points in the same branches, but everywhere helped by a more confident feeling. Extremes of weather have made the week not altogether good for retail trade, but in that line also there is improvement on the whole.

Wheat has risen over 6 cents for the week, without material change in foreign advices which have been on the whole less stimulating. Western receipts are falling behind last year's and for four weeks past have been only 19,012,584 bushels against 27,392,512 last year, while the exports, flour included, have been 6,270,088 bushels in the same weeks, against 6,625,018 last year, and are not large enough to create excitement. But 13 cargoes have left Tacoma in November and 30 have left San Francisco with 12 more loading and 40 engaged. The milling demand in the Atlantic states is also large. And at four Western cities the output of flour in five weeks has been 2,655,415 barrels, against 2,613,300 in the same week last year. Corn has sympathized with wheat only a little and is coming in freely. The speculative factor in the wheat market is that the visible supplies do not gain as much as has been expected. Cotton has gained only a sixteenth, after its considerable decline, and the tolerable heavy movement puts the speculators for an advance in constant difficulties.

Wool has and is still bought largely for speculation and earlier purchasers are unloading on the latter, but the mills are not doing much more than in October. There is a slightly better demand for staple goods. In speculative operations the sales of wool have been for four weeks 37,814,100 pounds, of which 26,212,000 were domestic and 24,371,821 in 1893, of which 21,639,196 were domestic. But the producing capacity in operation does not seem to be half the capacity of the works and the stoppage of several large carpet mills within the past ten days is of importance.

The collapse of the nail combination and probably of the beam combination and considerable reduction in quotations for nails and beams, give reason to look for a larger demand for products of iron and steel, but at present the sales against speculative purchases made some time ago are depressing prices and Bessemer pig has sold at $12.25 and according to some reports a little lower at Pittsburg. The demand for such products are not controlled by the combinations is somewhat increasing, but by no means as rapidly as expected. In minor metals tin is scarcely as strong as it was a week ago, but copper and lead are stronger. Failures for the week have been 300 against 279 last year in the United States, and 37 in Canada against 43 last year.

EUROPEAN CROPS.

The Situation as Seen by the Mark Lane Express.

London, Nov. 30.—The Mark Lane Express to-day, discussing the crop prospects, says:

"Severe frosts in France and Central Europe have stopped plowing and sowing, and we anticipate a somewhat reduced wheat acreage in the entire region between the Vistula and the bay of Biscay. Winter has set in throughout Russia; the sea of Azoff was closed to navigation on November 24, and navigation of the Baltic is dangerous on the northern and eastern coasts, where there is already much ice.

"Owing to the rainfall in India, the deficiency in the wheat acreage is reduced. But, while famine no longer threatens, a scarcity seems bound to be felt until the spring of 1898.

"English wheat maintains a good price in London, but the county markets are less firm. The cause of this is clear. In the counties last week 106,684 quarters of English wheat were offered for sale against 69,530 for the same week in 1895."

RAIN TOO LATE

To Do Much Good for the Crops in India.

London, Nov. 30.—The Earl of Elgin, viceroy of India, telegraphs to the government that the rain there is too late to be of much benefit to the autumn crop, but is in time for the late sowings. Prices, he says, show a tendency to fall, though the full effect is not yet apparent in the Deccan. The condition of the people is good and the pressure upon them is due to prices rather than to fault of the crops.

Since the rain prices have fallen 20 to 50 per cent in the northern districts.

WHEAT IN GREECE.

There is a Chance for Enterprising American Exporters.

Washington, Dec. 1.—United States Consul Horton at Athens, in a report to the State Department, says that in consequence of the bad wheat harvest in Russia, which supplies nearly two-thirds of the wheat used in Greece, prices for wheat are very high there and are still rising. He is confident that there is a fine opening for the introduction of American hard wheats into Greece, and offers to assist would-be exporters.

Primate of All England.

Canterbury, Nov. 25.—In the Chapter House of Canterbury, the Rt. Rev. Frederick Temple, archbishop of Canterbury, was formally elected primate of all England. The quaint formalities of the seventeenth century were observed.

Portugal Wants Wheat.

Lisbon Nov. 27.—The government of Portugal has authorized the importation of 138,000,000 kilos of wheat, to supplement the deficiency in the national supply.

REVIEW OF WEEK'S BUSINESS.

OFFICE OF THE TOLEDO BLADE,
Toledo, O., Dec. 1, 1896.

The following shows changes in government bonds during the past week:

	Dec. 1.	Nov. 24.
U. S. 4's (new) coupons.....	119½	119½
U. S. 4's (new) registered.....	119½	119½
U. S. 5's coupons.....	113	113
U. S. 5's registered.....	113½	113
U. S. 4's coupons.....	110½	110
U. S. 4's registered.....	110½	110
U. S. 2's coupons.....	96	96
Pacific 6's of '97.....	102	102

Condition of the Grain Market at the Close To-Day.

There was a weak opening in wheat in the general markets to-day, the result of lower cables. A certain class of bears made quite an effort to carry the downward turn on bad reports from Argentine and Northwestern receipts, but the bear influence was too strong and the markets receded. A Chicago house of the first class sells as and advises the seeing disposition to effect sales at prices drop without any energy being injected into it. The only market that was higher at the close was St. Louis. There was no particular reason to account for such a break. If wheat were worth the which it brought yesterday, it was worth that much to-day. It looks very much as if the bull element had concluded that prices were sufficiently low to tempt the people. They made a good thing out of the advance and the decline was no anticipated by many dealers in the trade.

Corn held fairly steady throughout the day, closing at nearly the opening price. At Chicago December corn opened at 23c, fell to 22⅝c, rose to 23¼c and closed at 23@23⅛c; May 20⅜@20⅝c, then 20⅝@20¾c. At New York December corn opened at 27½c, rose to 29¼c, and closed at 28¾c nominal; May, 32¾c, 32⅝c, 32⅝c, then 32¾c asked.

Primary receipts to-day: Wheat, 382,000 bushels; against 1,062,000 same time last year. Shipments, 328,000 bushels; same time last year, 530,000 bushels. Receipts of corn to-day, 372,000 bushels; same time last year, 357,000 bushels. Shipments, 340,000 bushels; same time last year, 230,000 bushels.

Closing Liverpool wheat, spot steady to ½d higher; freights 1 to 1¼d lower. Corn spot, ¼d lower; freights, ¼d to ½d lower.

A contract has been closed for a large supply of Baltimore flour for shipment to South Africa. It will be sent from New York to Port Natal. Short crops in Australia and the Argentine Republic now cause South African markets to look to this country for supplies.

Receipts corn in the Northwest to-day, 316 cars; last week, 562 cars; last year, 1,343 cars.

Chicago curb on May wheat, 83⅝c; puts on May wheat at Chicago opened at 82¾c, sold at 82¾c, latest 82⅝c. Calls opened at 84⅝c, sold at 84⅝c, latest,